

The SWORD of the LORD

Edited by JOHN R. RICE.

"And they cried, The Sword of the Lord, and of Gideon." Judges 7:20

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An Independent Christian Weekly, Standing for the Verbal Inspiration of the Bible, the Deity of Christ, His Blood Atonement, Salvation by Faith, New Testament Soul Winning and the Premillennial Return of Christ. Opposes Modernism, Worldliness and Formalism.

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The Godly Home America's National Foundation

By Dr. William McCarrell
Pastor Emeritus, Cicero Bible Church, Cicero, Illinois

"There was in the days of Herod, the king of Judea, a certain priest named Zacharias, of the course of Abia; and his wife was of the daughters of Aaron, and her name was Elisabeth. And they were both righteous before God, walking in all the commandments and ordinances of the Lord blameless. And they had no child, because that Elisabeth was barren, and they both were now well stricken in years. . . . But the angel said unto him, Fear not, Zacharias: for thy prayer is heard; and thy wife Elisabeth shall bear thee a son, and thou shalt call his name John. And thou shalt have joy and gladness; and many shall rejoice at his birth. For he shall be great in the sight of the Lord, and shall drink neither wine nor strong drink; and he shall be filled with the Holy Ghost, even from his mother's womb. And many of the chil-

dren of Israel shall he turn to the Lord their God. And he shall go before him in the spirit and power of Elias, to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the disobedient to the wisdom of the just; to make ready a people prepared for the Lord. . . . And the child grew, and waxed strong in spirit, and was in the deserts till the day of his shewing unto Israel."—Luke 1:5-7; 13-17, 80.

The need of nations, the church, and cause of Christ being bulwarked with Christian homes cannot be overemphasized. When home life fails God, society breaks, nations are shattered, and the cause of Christ hindered. Advance of Christianity is largely proportioned by the manner in which homes honor God. Home, more than school, church, or amusement center determines human character, and personal character in the total determines a nation's future. America may never be destroyed by enemies from without; however, it will be destroyed if present-day decay, degeneracy, and debauchery from within is not checked. The home will finally determine its advance or destruction.

Domestic dissension, immorality, and divorce threaten our homes, consequently our nation, more seriously than at any previous time. The very foundation of our civilization is being attacked by ignorant pragmatism, brazen immorality, deceptive infidelity, and deadening indifference. Sophisticated drunkenness sneers at decency and Christian virtue is openly ridiculed. The good physician seeks the root of disease in order to cure. The most effective means of warding off today's threatened destruction is

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Dr. William McCarrell

THE SECOND COMING

By the Late Evangelist Billy Sunday

"Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord. Wherefore comfort one another with these words."—I Thess. 4:17, 18.

(The meeting here mentioned is to be the greatest meeting the Bible tells us anything about.) There have been some wonderful meetings, but never has there been one to compare with this.

It was a wonderful meeting the children of Israel had on the shore of the Red Sea, after Pharaoh's pursuing host had been destroyed in the angry waters, and Miriam, the prophetess, with her timbrel, led the people in singing, "Sing ye to the Lord, for he hath triumphed gloriously; the horse and rider hath he thrown into the sea" (Exod. 15:21).

And it was another great meeting they had at the foot of Mount Sinai, when the law of God was given to them amid thunders and lightnings, and fire and smoke.

That was a great meeting, too, on Mount Carmel, when Elijah,

the sturdy Tishbite, defied the prophets of Baal.

And that was a great meeting where David danced before the ark of God, as it was borne into Jerusalem.

It was a great meeting when Solomon dedicated the temple, and the glory of the Lord came upon the people.

And those were great meetings that were held on the banks of the Jordan, when Jerusalem and all Judea went out to hear the man who dressed in camel's hair and wore a linen girdle, and lived on locusts and wild honey.

It was a wonderful meeting when Jesus preached the Sermon on the Mount, and another when He fed the multitude with five loaves and two fishes.

And that was a great meeting on the day of Pentecost, when the Spirit came like a rushing mighty wind, and under Peter's preaching about three thousand were converted.

All these were great meetings, and any number of others have been held, both in former times and in our own day. Those were great meetings in the early days of Methodism, when Wesley and Whitefield preached to great multitudes in the fields. Those were great meetings when multitudes were flocking to hear Finney and Moody; and great meetings have since been held by other great evangelists all around the world.

But no meeting has ever been held anywhere or in any time that could begin to compare in importance with the greatest of all meetings that is to be held in the air, when our Lord comes to make up His jewels. That meeting is the one for which all others have been preparing the way. It will be the crowning meeting of all history. The purpose of all that has been done in this world up to the present time has been to prepare for that great meeting in the air.

From Adam, mankind has been marching, step by step, up a grand stairway leading direct to that meeting in the air. The call of Abraham was one step toward it, and Jacob and his twelve sons were another. Joseph ruling in Egypt was another; the deliverance under Moses another; the conquest of Canaan under Joshua another, and so on with every event in sacred history.

It was for this Jesus suffered on the cross to make atonement for sin. It was for this He arose from the dead and ascended into Heaven, where He took His place at the right hand of the Father. It was for this the Holy Spirit came at Pentecost, and it was for this that churches have been organized and missionaries sent to the ends of the earth. These things have all been done to prepare the way, and lead up to the meeting which is so graphically described in the text.

It was for this meeting God made His plans before He laid the foundations of the earth, and

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Billy Sunday

Sad Sayings for Sinners

By Evangelist John R. Rice

The Bible deals with the most heart-moving themes that ever entered the mind of man. It deals with the deepest woes of human misery and the highest heights of blessedness and ecstasy. It deals with eternities, not time alone. It centers not on food and drink and houses and jobs, but on sin and salvation, Heaven and Hell, everlasting joy or sorrow.

The preacher of the Gospel has more wealth at his disposal than any other public speaker. No other speaker could ever deal with such themes of joy and promised blessedness, such peace and eternal glory. And no other speaker deals with such themes as ought to move the human heart to sighs and tears. How terrible are the woes pictured in the Bible for the unredeemed, for Christ-rejecting sinners!

With deep moving of heart I have searched through the Bible for the saddest saying about sinners in all the sacred Scriptures. These Scriptures ought to move every Christian to tears and earnest effort to serve the Lord. They ought to move the sinner to godly fear and earnest, tearful repentance; ought to move the sinner to seek today the forgiving mercy

of God which he has so long rejected. These are solemn words, tragic words about sinners which we find in the holy Book of God.

I. The Sinner Is Already Lost—John 3:36

In John 3:36 we find these sad words about the state of unconverted sinners:

"... he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him."

This Scripture says that the sinner is not going to be lost when he dies, not going to be lost after the judgment, but is lost now. He shall not see life, but the wrath of God is on him all the time.

This same verse says that "he that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life." One who has trusted Christ is already saved, already has a new heart, a new life in Christ. Romans 5:11 says, "... we have now received the atonement." So those who have trusted in Christ for salvation and have been converted, born again, are already children of God, have already received the atonement. John 5:24 says that the believer "is passed from death

unto life." But the unregenerate sinner has the wrath of God abiding on him already.

How does God feel about a sinner who has not trusted Christ? We know that God loves the whole world and gave His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, to die for sinners. But along with this love for all men there is a growing, burning anger against all who reject Christ. Psalm 7:11 says, "God is angry with the wicked every day."

You see, then, that those who are not saved are lost. They are lost now. They are under the wrath of God. Romans 9:22 says, "What if God, willing to shew His wrath, and to make His power known, endured with much long-suffering the vessels of wrath fitted to destruction. . . ?" Christ-rejecting sinners are under God's wrath and He has already consented to their destruction because they are "vessels fitted to destruction."

John 3:18 says, "He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the

(Continued on page 4)

Two Birthdays: Now Celebrate Them Together!

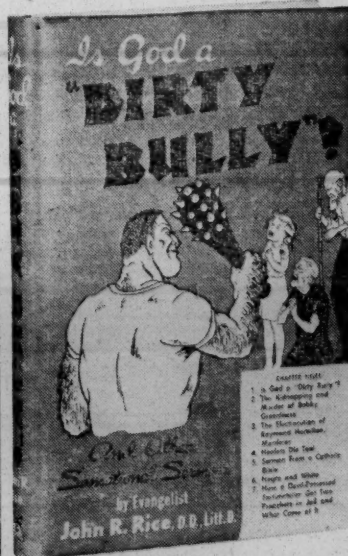
Join December 25 and December 11 in One
Happy and Holy Cause. Send 10,000
Christmas Subscriptions to THE
SWORD by the Editor's
Birthday!

By the Editor

Some 16,000 subscriptions to THE SWORD OF THE LORD are to expire in January unless people hurry to renew them. And we must have thousands to take the place of those who do not renew.

Every Christian who reads THE SWORD OF THE LORD has loved ones or friends who ought to get this, America's Foremost Revival Weekly, as a Christmas present. BUT WE MUST HAVE CHRISTMAS SUBSCRIPTIONS TWO WEEKS BEFORE CHRISTMAS TO GUARANTEE GETTING THEM STARTED WITH THE CHRISTMAS ISSUE! So we are asking that every Christmas gift subscription be in our hands by December 11. And every Christmas subscription in our hands by December 11 will receive a lovely greeting card announcing your gift, and will get the Christmas issue of THE SWORD OF THE LORD. So we urge you, rush those subscriptions: get them mailed and

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Free! 204-page book, with 1 subscription, \$3; with 3 subscriptions, \$7; with 10 subscriptions, \$19.

Kids' CORNER

By Aunt Joy

Dear Nieces and Nephews:

The other day I read a sweet story told by Mrs. Charles Cowman in her book, *Mountain Trailways for Youth*. It told how in a time of great danger a mother prayed to God for His protection, and God wonderfully took care of her and her family. Let me tell it to you.

Many years ago, the great French general, Napoleon, set out in a campaign to conquer as much of the territory around him as he could. In the country lived a good Christian widow with her children. When she heard that Napoleon's army was marching through the land, she was afraid that the soldiers might bother her home and hurt her children. So that night at the family altar, with her children gathered around her, she prayed, "Oh, God, build a wall around our home and protect us from the enemy."

As the children went to bed that night, they thought about what their mother had said in her prayer. They asked each other, "What did mother mean asking God to build a wall around our home?"

When they woke up the next morning, the children knew. During the night a heavy wind and snow storm had come, and the snow drifts were piled all around the house. The soldiers came by and did not even notice the little house, because God had answered the mother's prayer, and built a wall of snow around it.

Here is the story of a wonderful answer to prayer from the Old Testament.

Good King Hezekiah

II Kings 18-19; II Chronicles 29:—32:23

Of the twelve Israelite tribes, only the tribe of Judah and the Levites were not carried into captivity. When young Hezekiah became the king of Judah, the kingdom was very weak. For many years it had been ruled by men who did not serve the true God. These rulers had even closed up the temple of the Lord.

Hezekiah wanted his people to worship the true God. He called for the priests and the Levites to come to Jerusalem and clean the temple.

The Feast of the Passover had not been held for many, many years. When God's house was ready for worship, Hezekiah in-

vited everyone in the land of Judah and Israel to come to the Feast of the Passover.

Some of the people laughed when they received Hezekiah's invitation. They had worshiped idols for so long that they did not want to go to Jerusalem to worship the true God. Still, many, many people from the land of Judah came gladly to the feast. Together they rejoiced in the Lord.

King Hezekiah ordered that all the idols in his land be destroyed. Because the people even worshiped the brass serpent that Moses had made in the wilderness, Hezekiah had it torn down and thrown into the fire. He tried to teach the people to do the right, and his country became stronger.

Before Hezekiah came to the throne, the king of Assyria had gained power over Judah. Every year the people had to pay heavy taxes to him. Hezekiah did not want his people paying taxes to a heathen king, and so he refused to pay. He knew the king of Assyria would bring an army to try to force him to pay. To get ready for the attack, Hezekiah built up the walls of Jerusalem until they were very strong. Then he gathered an army and prepared to fight.

Even when Hezekiah had his men trained for battle, they were only a handful compared to the mighty Assyrian army. The enemy marched into the land of Judah and took one city after another. On toward Jerusalem they came.

At last Hezekiah knew his soldiers could not keep the Assyrians away, but it was too late to do anything about it. Finally poor Hezekiah sent word to the king of Assyria that he would not fight any longer.

When the king of Assyria got the message, he thought, "Now is my chance to ruin this little country of Judah." He demanded a heavier tax than ever before.

Hezekiah did not know how they could ever get all the money the king of Assyria demanded. He took all the gold and silver that was in his palace. Added to this was all the gold and silver he could get from the people. Still it was not enough. Finally he even had to take the silver and gold from the temple of the Lord.

Still the king of Assyria was not satisfied. He sent this message to Hezekiah: "I will destroy

THE EDITOR'S Notes

by John R. Rice

It was a joy to speak for four days, November 2-5, at the Ebenezer Baptist Church, Plymouth, Pennsylvania, and it was a rich blessing to be with Dr. Hettinger, the pastor, and his people, and with other pastors and people in that area.

The co-operation was blessed. For a Monday afternoon meeting, more than thirty pastors were present. Monday night there were more than forty, and chairs were needed in the aisles for the crowd. On Wednesday night a bus load of sixty or eighty people, I suppose, came seventy miles to the meeting. How packed they were in the bus!

There was a deep moving of the Holy Spirit on God's people. There were many holy vows. One pastor became so moved and concerned that he went out and won a soul to Christ. In the closing

your city and take you and your people to a far country just as I have done to the people of Israel. When I fought against other nations their idols did not help them. Your God won't be able to save you either."

How afraid Hezekiah was when he heard this message! What could his little army do against the powerful Assyrians? Hezekiah took the king's letter and went to the temple. He spread the letter before the altar and prayed. He asked God to help him and his people out of their trouble. Then he sent several princes to the prophet Isaiah to find out God's will.

Isaiah answered, "The Lord says that the king of Assyria will not enter Jerusalem, nor will he even shoot an arrow against it. He will go back to his country the way he came. There he will be killed."

That night the Assyrian soldiers became so ill that many of them died. Among the dead were all the leaders of the army. In fear the king gathered his troops and hurried back to his own land. Never again did he return to fight against Hezekiah, for God had heard and answered Hezekiah's prayers.

(Reprinted by permission from the book, *EGERMEIER'S BIBLE STORY BOOK* by Elsie E. Egermeier, Warner Press, 1955. Standard edition, \$3.95; deluxe edition, \$5.50.)

One time a little girl came to her father and asked him to teach her how to pray. Read the father's answer.

"Daddy, teach me how to pray," Asks the little child down at my knee.

Of all I can think this is what I say,
"Trust God and ask, as you do of me."

(As quoted by Mrs. Cowman in *Mountain Trailways for Youth*.)

This daddy gave a very wise answer when he told his little girl to ask God just like she asked her own daddy. You know, boys and girls, God loves to answer prayers, just like your dad loves to take care of your needs and give you the things you ask for.

Suppose you sat down at the dinner table one day and said, "Dad, I'm hungry. Would you please give me some meat and potatoes and a little gravy?" Wouldn't it be strange if your dad said, "What do you mean asking me for meat and potatoes? You just take care of yourself. I'm too busy to watch after you." That would be strange, because that is what dads and moms love to do—take care of their children.

Just so, it would be very strange if your Heavenly Father was too busy to listen to the prayers of His own dear children. The Bible gives us many plain promises that God's ears are open to the prayers of His children, even His little ones, and He will answer those who call on Him.

MEMORY VERSES: "Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you. For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened" (Luke 11:9, 10).

service Wednesday night, there were three who came to claim Christ as Saviour.

And that reminds me, when I spoke on October 16 at Pontiac, Michigan, with Brother Tom Malone and a state-wide meeting of pastors, one pastor told me that two weeks before he had been so blessed by our conference on revival and soul winning at the First Baptist Church of Wayne, Michigan (Dr. Lee Roberson was with me), that he went out the next day and won five souls to Christ, and had won nine more in visitation since then.

How blessed that God is stirring preachers and churches to stand true to Christ and win souls!

The Flu—and Thank God for the Riches of Health

Last Thursday I flew back from Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania, and tried to work Thursday afternoon and Friday morning. But it was very difficult to work and I felt desperately tired and a little vexed that I could not get the work done which was so greatly needed. And then it became apparent that I had the flu and I went home and to bed. After a half day in bed and some medicine I was greatly improved. Then I worked a good deal on Saturday, rested wonderfully well Saturday night, and Sunday was ready to preach and work again!

To spend a half day in bed seemed to me the height of luxury. It was a vacation, a celebration! The stomach cramps, the lassitude, the sickness did not overshadow the fact that I could, with good conscience since I was sick, stay at home and not do my office work, and rest extra hours in bed!

And now that the flu is gone and my usual mulish toughness has returned and I feel frisky as a puppy again, I feel led to thank God for the marvelous blessing of health! Mrs. Rice reminded me the other day that through these years we have never had any hospital insurance or health insurance. "And," she said, "wouldn't it have been a pity to have poured money into all of that and then had it wasted! For we never had a child go to the hospital, and we were practically never sick!" How blessedly merciful God has been with His constant watch-care. And I can thank God even for a day or two of sickness, which reminds me of the wonderful health God has provided me these sixty-two years and more.

Congratulations, Dr. Parker and Pillsbury College!

We rejoice in the inauguration of our beloved friend, scholar, and evangelist, Dr. Monroe Parker, as president of Pillsbury Bible College, on October 28.

Pillsbury Bible College is a Conservative Baptist college at Owatonna, Minnesota. Dr. Parker came as president last February. The school property was formerly used as a military academy. There is a million-dollar campus, a quarter million dollars of endowment, 131 students, a prospect of a good increase in enrollment in the second semester. Dr. Myron Cedarholm, general director of Conservative Baptist Association of America was the inaugural speaker. Dr. Richard V. Clearwaters of Minneapolis is president of the board of trustees.

Pillsbury Baptist Bible College is fundamental in doctrine, aggressively evangelistic. Rates are modest, standards are high. Students who wish to consider enrolling for the second semester should write Dr. Monroe Parker, President, at Pillsbury Baptist Bible College, Owatonna, Minnesota.

Where Did It Come From?

In this issue of THE SWORD OF THE LORD you will read, we trust, my sermon, "Sad Sayings for Sinners." This is part of a sermon, "The Seven Saddest Sayings for Sinners," published in the book of sermons entitled *A Know-So Salvation*. That book has eight sermons, 187 pages. It includes the sermon, "At the Last," recently published in THE SWORD, which received many, many favorable comments. Other sermons are "A Know-So Salvation," "The Seven Saddest Sayings for Sinners," half of which comes in this issue, "A New Heart," "Crossing the Deadline," "The Young Man

Let's Make A Thank Offering

Are we thankful to God for the blessings of the year? Why not celebrate Thanksgiving by sending ten yearly subscriptions to THE SWORD for \$19 and get free book of seven sensational sermons, *Is God a 'Dirty Bully'?* a beautiful gift volume? Do it for Jesus' sake and help other Christians.

Who Made up His Mind," "Almost Persuaded," and "Today."

May I humbly say, although I work continually as an editor and do a great deal of Bible study, I am primarily an evangelist, and God knows the burning of my heart to preach to sinners, and to revive Christians. This book of sermons is typical, and I believe you ought to have it. The price is \$2.50. Please include 15c for postage and packing. Order from The Sword of the Lord, Box 420, Wheaton, Illinois, or from your local bookstore.

Highland Park Has Greatest Year Yet

We rejoice with Dr. Lee Roberson, in the famous Highland Park Baptist Church at Chattanooga, that during the last church year they have baptized 1,271 converts. For eight years this church has baptized more than one thousand converts each year under the Spirit-anointed ministry of Dr. Roberson.

Dr. Roberson is also president of the Tennessee Temple Schools, with nearly nine hundred enrolled in the Bible school, college and seminary.

Does the Book Title "Is God a 'Dirty Bully'?" Offend You?

Some good people mistake aesthetics for morals, and mistake soft speech, smiles, the "love everybody, never offend," attitude for spirituality. So some good people, I think, are offended at the title of my new book, *Is God a 'Dirty Bully'?* and *Other Sensational Sermons*.

My suggestion is that if good people be offended at that title, they ought instead to get offended that the presiding bishop of the Methodist church, Bishop G. Bromley Oxnam, spread that blasphemy all over America as a slander on the God of the Bible. If you want to be offended, be offended with the nine million people who put their money and influence back of that kind of infidelity in the Methodist church. If you want to be offended, be offended at the bookstores who sell his Christ-denying infidel books.

Don't be offended at the doctor who cuts out a cancer. Don't be offended at the godly father who spans a brat who needs spanking to make a good man out of him. Don't be offended at the preacher who defends the Bible against infidels.

There are too many Christians who think they are spiritual when they have a pipe organ playing during prayer and they are not offended or grieved or conscience-stricken that they never see a sinner coming with tears to take Christ as Saviour! There are too many people who feel it is religious to have some worldly soprano howling out "Ave Maria" (a Catholic prayer to Mary) and never have an invitation song or win a sinner to Christ.

The world needs that book of sensational sermons starting with the sermon, "Is God a 'Dirty Bully'?" We predict that God will use it to save hundreds of souls, to stir the hearts of thousands of Christians, and to answer the problems and questions of thousands more. We are glad to give this big 202-page book free with one year's subscription to THE SWORD for \$3 or free with three one-year subscriptions or one three-year subscription for \$7, or we give it free with ten one-year subscriptions for \$19.

Again, beloved Christians, I plead if you want to get offended, get offended at infidels who slander God, not at some Bible-believing preacher who defends the faith.



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With You

Lo, I am with you! With you as I promised!
What though ye see Me not, nor feel Me near?
Lo, I am with you! Rest your heart upon it!
Lo, I am with you! Always! Now and here!

Lo, I am with you, in the darkest valley!
Lo, I am with you, in life's brightest hour!
Lo, I am with you, in life's deepest sorrow!
With you as well in summer's fairest bower!

Lo, I am with you. Now! Henceforth! Forever!
Ye, who are Mine, by precious blood, My own;
Lo, I am with you, —have this for your comfort:
No hour can be when thou art quite alone.

"J. Danson Smith"

INCIDENTS

and Illustrations

By

Evangelist Robert L. Sumner
Contributing Editor

Prof Says No World War III

Professor Frederick L. Schuman of Williams College, Massachusetts, addressed students at the Wilson Junior College in Chicago recently on the subject, "Why World War III Will Never Be Fought!" Mr. Schuman is professor of political science at Williams College.

One cannot help but think of the Scripture, "For when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape" (I Thess. 5:3). The wish is father of any thought that there will be no World War III—a wish in complete contradiction with the infallible Word of God.

INFIDEL TURKEY HAS ONCE AGAIN SHOWN MORAL SUPERIORITY TO CHRISTIAN AMERICA. A RELEASE FROM ISTANBUL STATES THAT GOVERNOR MUNTASZ TARHAN HAS BANNED STRIP-TEASE FROM ISTANBUL'S NIGHT CLUBS ON THE GROUNDS THAT SUCH PERFORMANCES ARE TOO DAMAGING TO YOUTH. THE TURKISH STUDENTS' LEAGUE IMMEDIATELY WENT TO HIS SUPPORT, CHARGING THAT STRIP-TEASE AND ROCK 'N' ROLL ARE "LEADING TURKISH YOUTH DOWN THE WRONG PATH." CHRISTIAN AMERICA FEATURES THEM NOT ONLY IN NIGHT CLUBS, BUT IN MOVIES, TELEVISION, AND AT HIGH SCHOOL DANCES!

The Prince's Offer of Substitution

The Kaiser's eldest son, Crown Prince Wilhelm, wrote from Holland, February 9, 1920, to King George V of Britain after World War I, offering himself as a hostage to save the nine hundred Germans wanted as war criminals. He sent a similar offer to Premier Francesco S. Nitti of Italy. This information has just been publicly disclosed in a volume of hitherto secret documents covering the years 1919-1939, released by the British Foreign Office.

The nine hundred German war prisoners were never tried.

This brings to mind the far greater self-sacrifice of Heaven's Crown Prince which was not merely an offer, but became a grim reality at Calvary. This sacrifice was not for a mere nine hundred compatriots but for all earth's inhabitants of all ages. The Bible tersely states it, "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life" (John 3:16), and, "For when we were yet without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly. For scarcely for a righteous man will one die: yet peradventure for a good man some would even dare to die. But God commendeth his love toward us,

in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him. For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled, we shall be saved by his life. And not only so, but we also joy in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom we have now received the atonement" (Rom. 5:6-11).

MERCHANTS AND BUSINESSMEN IN THE UNITED STATES LOSE FIVE HUNDRED MILLION DOLLARS EVERY YEAR FROM BAD CHECKS GIVEN TO THEM BY CHISELERS!

Original Realty 'Deal'

Have you ever visualized the story of the Garden of Eden through the eyes of a real estate broker? A Winston-Salem, North Carolina realtor, speaking at an annual Realtors Institute session, stated: "The first transfer of real estate was not a sale. It was a gift. Adam was given the Garden of Eden 'subject to restrictions.' The restrictions were broken, through connivance of Eve, the co-tenant, and there followed the 'first eviction on record.' Adam and Eve were banished from the precincts of the 'model home site.'" The realtor, Edward M. Shepherd, also noted that the first recorded real estate sale was Abraham's purchase of a grave site for Sarah his wife.

Shepherd didn't say so, but the best 'deal' available to anyone and everyone in the realm of real estate has to do with a mansion in Heaven. The transfer of a title to a heavenly home is, like the Garden of Eden, not a sale but a gift. When accepted, it is not subject to any restrictions but is the eternal possession of the recipient. Do you have a heavenly home? Then why not accept one by faith in Jesus Christ?

NEEDED: More Sexton Beetles

Sexton beetles always dig graves for any small dead animals they run across in their journeys. A great army of these beetles will start digging the dirt from under any dead body they find until it slowly sinks down into the earth. When the carcass is down deep enough in the earth, the beetles will cover it over where it will become a part of the soil as well as food for themselves.

How nice it would be if Christians acted as Sexton beetles in the first half of that act and whenever they ran across any dead issue of scandal or slander, instead of scattering it roadside around the church and community, they would bury it and ignore it. However, they should forget the second phase of the Sexton beetle act—feeding on the buried carcass! "He that passeth by and meddleth with strife belonging not to him, is like one that taketh a dog by the ears. . . . Where no wood is, there the fire goeth out: so where there is no tale-bearer, the strife ceaseth. As coals are to burning coals, and wood to fire; so is a contentious man to kindle strife. The words of a tale-bearer are as wounds, and they go down into the innermost parts of the belly" (Prov. 26:17, 20-22).

Evangelist Sumner can be seen and heard:

Thru November 30:
West Chicago Baptist Church
Detroit, Michigan

December 2-14:
Calvary Baptist Church
408 North Lafayette Street
Macomb, Illinois

Evangelists

REPORTS FROM AMERICA'S OUTSTANDING SOUL WINNERS

Pastor Elbert G. Peak of the Corinth Baptist Church, Abilene, Texas, reports a good meeting held by **EVANGELIST HOMER BRITTON**, 500 Portview Place, Chattanooga, Tennessee. During the meeting there were 27 saved, 9 joining the church by transfer of letter, 42 backsliders reclaimed, and 2 who came for assurance of salvation. The church has voted unanimously to have Dr. Britton return in August for their annual tent campaign.

EVANGELIST DON CHENOWETH of P. O. Box 2, Tampa, Florida, reports a meeting with the First Baptist Church in Dayton, Ohio, where Rev. John Frost is pastor. During the one-week meeting there were 12 professions of faith, and 11 additions to the church. Evangelist Chenoweth was also in the Grace Baptist Church of Middleton, Ohio, where Rev. Howard Sears is pastor. In the one-week meeting there, there were 19 professions of faith, and 18 additions to the church.

Rev. David Tirrell, pastor of the Lauderdale Bible Baptist Church in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida, writes to tell of a good meeting held by **EVANGELIST EDDIE WAGNER**, 513 North Fullerton Road, La Habra, California. During the meeting there were 25 first-time decisions for salvation, including a Greek Catholic couple and two other Roman Catholics. There were also many decisions made by Christians.

The First Baptist Church of Milford, Michigan, where Rev. Clark L. Mann is pastor, recently had **EVANGELIST JACK VAN IMPE**, 14 Gage Street, Pontiac 16, Michigan, for a week of evangelistic meetings October 5-12. There were 43 saved, and 55 restorations.

EVANGELIST DON WILSON, Varsity Village, White Oak Drive, Greenville, South Carolina, held a revival in the Lakewood Bible Baptist Church in Atlanta, Georgia, where Rev. Robert A. Welty is pastor. There were 12 first-time decisions for salvation, 27 rededications, 1 young man surrendered to preach and 4 were added to the church.

EVANGELIST GLEN SCHUNK of 10 Blythewood Drive, Greenville, South Carolina, was recently in the Clio Community Chapel, Clio, Iowa, where Rev. W. P. Whitaker is pastor. The pastor reports that there were record-breaking crowds every night and that 6 came publicly to accept Christ and there were many rededications of life among the Christians.

EVANGELIST BOB NICHOLAS of 544 East 3rd Avenue, Escondido, California, just closed a fine revival in the York Baptist Church of Milan, Michigan. Rev. Edgar Sweetland, pastor, reports there were 34 decisions for salvation and some rededications. Many of the decisions were from the children's meeting on Saturday when Evangelist Nicholas gave his unusual presentation of "Jimmy's Little Mystery House."

EVANGELIST BOB PERSSON, 339 Rice Drive, Beloit, Wisconsin, held a meeting in the First Baptist Church of Gate City, Virginia, where Rev. Lester Ferguson is pastor. There were 11 saved in the nightly services with many rededications in the one-week meeting. There were also 26 saved at a senior high school and 37 saved in a junior high school during special assembly programs there.

The pussyfooters and compromisers never attack modernists; they attack and slander fundamentalists! They are strong for love—that is, love for everybody—but the old-fashioned Bible believers who fight for Christ and the Gospel.

—Dr. Bob Jones, Sr.

Were the Apostles Jews?

By the Editor

Miss Fay Baker, Little River, Kansas, writes, "Can you tell me what about these people who claim that all the apostles were not all Jews? I note that Smith's Dictionary says that Judas was a Canaanite. I know that Jesus told the woman at the well that salvation is of the Jews. Thank you for any help you may give in this matter."

Here is the editor's letter.

I believe that all the apostles were Jews. Note the following reasons.

1. Jesus was in Galilee near Capernaum in the mount where He preached the Sermon on the Mount when He selected the twelve apostles, as we see from Luke 6:12-20. And then chapter 7 says, "Now when he had ended all his sayings in the audience of the people, he entered into Capernaum." So the apostles were chosen in the land of Israel among the Jews.

2. There were twelve apostles and that number seemed to be especially connected with the meaning of the apostles. For when Judas Iscariot sinned and died unsaved they elected a twelfth, one Matthias to take his place. Twelve is a Hebrew number, representing the twelve tribes. That indicates to me the apostles were probably Jews.

3. The apostles are to "sit upon twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel," as you see from Matthew 19:28. In the kingdom age, apostles will rule over Israel. That indicates that the call of an apostle was particularly for the purpose of dealing with the Jews. That seems to be true particularly of the original twelve.

Later Barnabas and Paul went out to the Gentiles, but Paul differentiated himself from other apostles as "the apostle to the Gentiles."

4. It seems to me that God chose the Jewish nation, that through the Jews He might send the Gospel. Jesus did say, as you remind us, that "salvation is of the Jews." In Romans 9:4-5, God's plan for Israel is somewhat outlined. "Who are Israelites; to whom pertaineth the adoption, and the glory, and the covenants, and the giving of the law, and the service of God, and the promises; Whose are the fathers, and of whom as concerning the flesh Christ came, who is over all, God blessed for ever. Amen." Here we see that the covenant, the giving of the law (that is the Bible particularly) and the ceremonial laws which pointed to Christ and all the promises about Christ, and then "of whom as concerning the flesh Christ came," these are the great ways in which salvation is of the Jews. So it seems to me proper and suitable that the apostles should be Jews and I think they were.

In Jesus' name, yours,
John R. Rice

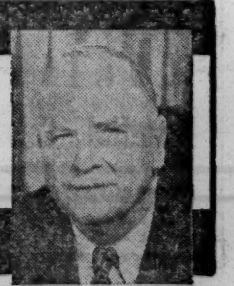
N.C.C. President Dahlberg

Dr. Edwin Dahlberg, pastor of Delmar Baptist Church, St. Louis, is a member of the Southern Baptist Convention in good standing and full fellowship, and is president of the National Council of Churches. He is an out-and-out pacifist, and is decidedly communistic in his affiliations. Dr. J. B. Matthews, former counsel for the House Committee on Un-American Activities, and an outstanding authority on communism in America, says that Dahlberg is "a veteran fronter for communist causes." A communist fronter is usually one who is not actually a card-carrying communist. But, by his sympathies and his affiliations with communist front organizations, he helps the communist cause much better than he could if he were an actual member of the communist party. Dr. Matthews lists Dahlberg as being either affiliated with or cooperative with the following communist-front organizations:

1. The Citizen's Committee to free Earl Browder,
2. An Open Letter to President Roosevelt protesting an order for the deportation of Harry Bridges,
3. The National Committee to combat anti-Semitism,
4. Report of Committee visiting Yugoslavia (with expenses paid by Communists),
5. Conference on Peaceful Alternative to the Atlantic Pact,
6. Committee to Repeal the McCarran Act,
7. Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell.

—From THE FAITH AND SOUTHERN BAPTISTS

Dr. Bob Jones SAYS:



I believe that God called Bob Jones University into existence about thirty-two years ago and has trained the institution to give an uncompromising emphasis to old-time, orthodox evangelism in this day of compromise.

We are calling on all of God's faithful, Bible-believing, uncompromising Christians to pray for Bob Jones University, especially in these days. We believe the greatest days of the University are ahead of us. We need your prayers. We are going to stand true. We also need your financial support. We are putting up a \$300,000 building now, and when we get through with this building, we do not want to owe any mon-

ey; so you can help us some financially. If you send a check, we will use one-half of it for the building, and one-fourth of it for the missionary fund, and one-fourth of it for the student loan fund. We have graduates of Bob Jones University in all the states and in many foreign countries, and practically all of them are standing true to the Bible, and many of them are great soul winners.

Please let us hear from you. Thank you, and God bless you.

BOB JONES, FOUNDER
BOB JONES UNIVERSITY
GREENVILLE, S. C.
(Advertisement)

Your Gifts Send Him The Sword Of The Lord

We are so glad for all the missionaries and the national Christian workers in various foreign countries who get THE SWORD OF THE LORD and find help and strength in it day by day for getting out the Gospel. And many a retired preacher with little or no income, and many a ministerial student rejoices because somebody has paid for THE SWORD OF THE LORD for him.

One of those who gets THE SWORD OF THE LORD and is blessed by it is Brother Stanley J. Sangster in Bridgetown, South Africa. He writes us as follows:

"Dear Dr. Rice:

"I received your form requesting me to fill in whether I should like my subscription renewed or not.

"Firstly, Dr. Rice, I would like it renewed so very, very much.

"My position is as follows. I do storekeeping to support my wife and children, but my whole time is mainly given to the service of God. I do regular Bible teaching and preaching throughout the Cape Peninsula which necessitates moving about much by train and streetcar. Many, many of my week ends are also away from home, which involves expenditure I would otherwise use for my home. When even taking annual leave, my whole time is given to the Gospel. Last month I spent two and a half weeks in the Diamond City of South Africa and had a time of blessing. Souls were wonderfully saved, family altars set up, and Christians revived.

"So my daily job keeps me in finances, enabling me to travel about and getting me to preaching engagements. I am a responsible layman in a Christian Brethren church about ten miles out of Capetown. We are absolutely fundamental, aggressive, and the church is growing. I help organize campaigns, youth rallies, cottage meetings, prayer meetings, etc., am constantly preaching in the open air, have to teach a weekly class of about one hundred and fifty, Saturdays at youth meetings, Sunday of course being a busy day, having to help organize six Sunday Schools in the area, approximately 800 children. Often on week ends we move out to needy parts into the country to make known the Gospel. I am waiting on the Lord to lead me on to a life of full dependence on Him when I shall be uncumbered by secular ties.

"Therefore, Dr. Rice, I ask humbly for you to continue to send me your paper. I do not deserve it. There's a lump in my throat when I think I may never

read it again, but I know this, your paper is immeasurably precious to me. You will never fully know how richly it has blessed me. Your own written ministry has been the greatest single factor in my own life in even moulding my spiritual thinking and I find it absolutely Bible-based and spiritual. Sermons and illustrations from THE SWORD I have freely borrowed and used to the blessing of souls.

"I love THE SWORD's fearless, uncompromising stand, its clear-cut, definite beseeching gospel messages, its scriptural teaching on the fundamentals of the faith, its call to revival, to clean living, its wonderful support for evangelists and evangelism. I have just at this moment finished your powerful article on "Cooperative Evangelism." Dr. Rice, may I respectfully urge you to continue to carry the battle into the domain of the modernists. They must certainly wilt before such powerful scriptural reasoning. It's a great article, it will do good, it will warn the unwary, it will guide the evangelist into the old path of a separated, Spirit-filled ministry. Oh! that multiplied thousands will read it! Can I then do without such a paper that blesses, thrills, and stirs the heart? I say then, the expenses I have to meet and my many Christian commitments make it hard for me to subscribe. I tearfully ask for a renewal.

"A full-time evangelist friend of mine receives THE SWORD in turn from me. God has used him to plant five small churches ranging from forty to over a hundred miles from the city. I am often out assisting him and your paper is constantly encouraging and blessing his own heart.

"Thank you, Dr. Rice, for faithfully sending me your paper. May God use you in U. S. A. to turn the fearful swelling tide of modernism and infidelity into channels of glorious old-time revival and spiritual blessing.

"Gratefully yours in Christ,"
(Signed) Stanley J. Sangster

How our heart rejoices that THE SWORD OF THE LORD goes to strengthen this man who holds a secular job, sacrifices, works nearly day and night to get out the Gospel, and hopes to get into full-time work when the way is open.

Some 3,000 missionaries and 22,000 preachers altogether take THE SWORD OF THE LORD each week. And literally thousands of these have it sent to them by someone else's loving gift.

If you want to help such people, keep the encouragement and strength that THE SWORD OF THE LORD can bring, send your gift to the Sword of the Lord Ministers and Missionary Subscription Gift Fund.

We are renewing the subscription of our brother in South Africa, and we think readers of THE SWORD will want to help us keep up this good work. This is only one sample out of hundreds and hundreds of other such appeals which we get.

Send your gift to the Ministers and Missionary Subscription Gift Fund. Address THE SWORD OF THE LORD, Box 420, Wheaton, Illinois. And pray that God will bless every issue to the hearts of preachers, missionaries, Christian workers, as well as multiplied thousands of lay Christians.

Her Sacrifice of Praise

It is not to the honor of our gracious Master that we should sit under juniper trees, hang our harps upon willows, and walk about the world in the shadow of death and despair. "I won't be unhappy," said a fine old saint; "It is all I have to give to God and I will praise Him and glorify Him by a happy face and a radiant life."

A. B. Simpson, in
Alliance Weekly

Sad Sayings for Sinners

(Continued from page 1)

only begotten Son of God." One who has not trusted in Christ is already condemned. It is not said that he will be condemned when he dies or condemned at the judgment, but he is condemned already.

I went to see a man in the jail at Fort Worth, Texas, who was already condemned to die in the electric chair within thirty days. He realized that he was condemned. He was brought out of solitary confinement that I might talk to him about his soul. His face was pasty white. His body was thin. His transparent hand trembled like that of a man of eighty, though he was only a boy about twenty-two. He was condemned. The courts had already tried him. They had already proved him guilty. They had already sentenced him to death. He knew that he was condemned. The day of execution was set.

But all about us are people who are just as certainly condemned as that man, though they do not know it. They have not trusted in Christ, so they have already been found guilty by the court of Heaven. They have spurned the offers of pardon. They have ignored the plea to repent. God says they are condemned already.

This horrible thought, that unconverted, unrepentant men are already lost, already condemned, already under the wrath of God, is one of the most solemn, one of the saddest taught in the whole Bible.

II. Why People Are Not Saved; They Love Darkness Because of Their Evil Deeds—John 3:19,20

The moving complaint of the Lord Jesus against sinners, "Ye will not come to me, that ye might have life," is sad. But another Scripture goes further and tells us why sinners do not come to Christ, why they do not want the light. Jesus in John 3:18 said, "He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name

of the only begotten Son of God." One who has not trusted Christ is condemned already. Then the following verses take up this terrible condemnation that rests upon sinners and tells why they deserve no mercy, why they must be condemned. These verses show the awful moral guilt of Christ-rejecting sinners. Read these verses and see if they do not hold another of the saddest sayings:

"And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. For every one that doeth evil hateth the light, neither cometh to the light, lest his deeds should be reproved."—John 3:19, 20.

Does some sinner protest that he wants to do right and that there is no moral guilt in delaying his salvation? Does some sinner pretend that there are good reasons, good motives back of his failure to trust Christ as Saviour? Do not believe it! There is never a good reason for doing wrong. And in this case the dear Lord Jesus Himself opens the door of the human heart and lets us look within. Light has come into the world, He said; Jesus Himself is the light of the world. But men love darkness rather than light because their deeds are evil. Those who do evil hate the light, that is, they hate Christ who is the Light, and they will not come to Him because their deeds are evil! They love their sins. They will not come to Christ lest their sins should be reproved.

Unsaved men do not always know why they reject Christ. You see, "The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?" (Jer. 17:9). No man realizes how wicked he is unless the wickedness of his heart be revealed by the Holy Spirit of God. But whether sinners know it or not, that is one ghastly and tragic reason why every Christ-rejecting sinner goes on without Christ and salvation. He will not come to Christ because he loves his sin. He does not want his sin reproved. So he hates

Christ, the Light, and chooses the darkness of unbelief. Thus a man chooses to have his mind clouded, chooses to go toward agnosticism or atheism rather than come to Christ and have his sins forgiven and taken away from him.

These words of Jesus prove the moral guilt of unbelief.

One may say that he does not come to Christ because he cannot give up some enslaving habit, some binding sin. But Christ did not say one should wait until he conquered habit or until he made his own heart white. Thank God, Jesus Christ will accept the vilest sinner, the sinner who knows that he cannot reform himself, cannot break himself loose from the chains of habitual sin. No sinner need wait for victory over drink or lust or dope or over the power of sin in any other form before he comes to Jesus. Jesus Christ can take the sinner just as he is and do for him all that he needs to have done, including not only forgiveness but cleansing. Christ can save not only from the penalty of sin but from the power of sin. But He cannot save the sinner against his will. He cannot make a drunkard sober unless the drunkard wants to be sober. He cannot make the harlot pure unless the harlot longs to be pure. He cannot make the infidel into a believer unless the infidel wants to be a believer. The choice must rest with the sinner. As long as a man loves his sin, holds on to his sin and hates the light that would expose it, he will not come to Christ and Christ will not save him.

Last night I heard a successful businessman, greatly respected in a wide circle of prominent friends, tell how he came to Christ after forty-seven years in sin. He told how he said to God, "I am not coming signing any pledge to quit drink. I have signed them before and that didn't work. I am not coming to You promising You that I will never swear again. I have tried again and again to conquer that habit and failed. Lord Jesus, I believe that You died for my sins and I want You to do for all my habits and sins what I cannot do for myself." He trusted Christ and since then has been used to win hundreds of souls one by one. There was a glad joy in his voice as he said publicly last night, "And since that time I have never taken a drink and have never sworn an oath!"

Christ will take a sinner who is covered with sin and save him, but the sinner must be willing for Christ to take away the sins and rebuke them and reprove them.

By the testimony of the man quoted above I do not mean to indicate that God always instantly takes away a habit without effort.

(Continued on page 8)

Congressman Charges Liquor Advertising Doesn't Tell Truth

WASHINGTON, D. C.—The Congressional Record of May 13 carries a radio address of Congressman Eugene Siler of Kentucky. The Congressman is the author of HR 4835, having to do with alcohol advertising. The Congressman said that "it is a rather tragic and ironic situation when the great majority of citizens and homeowners in some areas of the country—for instance, in my own home county down in southeastern Kentucky—have voted themselves entirely dry and wish always to keep their areas and their homes dry like hickory chips, yet have to encounter alcoholic advertising wet like the Atlantic Ocean in their very homes and their family hearthstones, morning, noon, and night and at most of the periods in between.

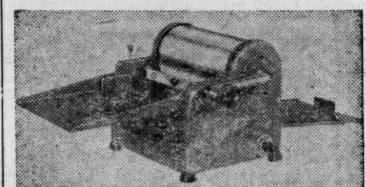
"A great many people all over America are interested in this subject. Several hundred persons have written or informed me of their support of this bill and I am sure that thousands of others would have so informed me except for the fact that it is generally known and very well publicized that I am for this bill with my whole heart and soul, and, therefore, it is adequately realized that it would be a pointless gesture to write me in support of my own legislative proposal, namely H R 4835. All of these good people well understand that only through enactment of my bill can their home towns and home counties and their places of abode be truly free from this continuing liquor evil. For without this enactment, the slithering, slimy reptile of deceit that is called alcoholic advertising, will constantly, consistently, and conveniently come right into their homes and whisper lies and misrepresentations into the tender ears of their children. 'This is a man of distinction,' says the bright-colored liquor ad, but gen-

uine truth would say, 'A man on skid-row drank this liquor, and now he has delirium tremens and a chronic case of cirrhosis of the liver, and he won't be around here much longer.' Also, the liquor advertising says, 'This is Manhattan melody,' but the unvarnished fact is that it really should say, 'This is a funeral dirge to Hell.' Why do the liquor advertisers always tell so many lies and half-truths and send them into your homes? Well, the answer is that they worship the god known as mammon to such extent that the advertisers are willing to say anything or do anything to promote that pagan worship. But if my bill should become the law of the land by action of Congress, these untruths and misrepresentations would cease to transgress within the precincts of our American homes and among all our growing families."

—From National Voice

The Bible says, "We shall reap if we faint not." There never was a good time to faint. The house is on fire, and a woman faints, so they have to turn the hose on her and let the house burn! This is no time to faint. Let us stand. Let us be true. Don't dodge and trim.—Dr. Bob Jones, Sr.

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The Godly Home . . .

(Continued from page 1)

Christian character produced and developed through Christian homes.

J. Edgar Hoover, director of this country's Federal Bureau of Investigation, startled this nation by reporting that 1942 records showed "a 55 per cent increase in arrests of girls under 21 years, in 1942, as compared with 1931. Arrests of girls for drunkenness increased 40 per cent; for disorderly conduct, nearly 70 per cent; for prostitution and commercialized vice, 64 per cent; for other sex offenses, 104 per cent; and for vagrancy (which often veils a more serious offense), 124 per cent. The increases were greatest among girls 15, 16, 17, 18, and 19. But even among girls under 15 years of age, there was an increase of more than 49 per cent."

Statistics concerning boys reveal similar conditions. When submitting this startling report, he warned that though this country wins the war it was then engaged in, it nevertheless would be lost if there was not a return to the Bible in the homes comprising our nation. He expressed conviction that the sad conditions reported were caused chiefly by a wrong philosophy of life taught in our schools and the neglect of the Bible in our homes. These dangerous conditions have increased yearly since 1942. His warning is more needed today. Society should always face the fact that young people are what they are because older people have been what they have been.

The home described in Chapter One of Luke gave to mankind John the Baptist, the forerunner of Jesus Christ. It offers much needed truth for present-day family life. The parents practiced persistent and prevailing prayer. They rejoiced in sacrificial service unto God. They maintained public and family worship. They were separated from worldliness through being separated unto God. Homes that honor God through saying grace at meals, having daily family prayer and Bible reading, that make Christ the center, head, and glory of the home, are at all times the chief national safe-guard. Such homes are used of God.

One testified how he left his godly home because of his sin but how he could not get away from its influence. He received Christ as Saviour, became a noted preacher and established a well-known present-day Bible school.

Harry Munro, who for many years superintended the God-blessed Pacific Garden Mission in Chicago, stated publicly that every person he knew who professed to receive Christ over a period of thirty-five years in the mission and whose life evidenced genuine salvation, had either a praying mother or father, or both. A well-known judge in New York stated that of 2,700 delinquent youths that passed through his court, not one was a Sunday School pupil.

John the Baptist's parents saw wondrous opportunity to serve God through rearing children. They prayed definitely for a child. When God answered prayer, they, like Hannah of Old Testament days, dedicated it to God before its birth. Like begets like, the child reared in this godly home atmosphere followed his parents' exemplary spiritual life. Scripture states that God filled him with His Spirit from his mother's womb. He became a powerful, fruitful, and public witness for Christ, motivated by one passion and that to exalt God and Jesus Christ. He was used in the salvation of countless numbers and was a channel of Heaven's blessing to mankind. Great numbers on earth and in Heaven praise the God-head because of him.

His parents counted mightily for God through him. They, through their home, share his great work. These parents walked by faith and not by sight (II Cor. 5:7). Jesus said concerning him, "... Among them . . . born of women there hath not risen a greater than John the Baptist . . ." (Matt. 11:11). These parents demonstrated the truth of the Bible promise, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house" (Acts 16:31).

The infant Moses was found by an Egyptian princess floating in a basket among the bulrushes of the River Nile. Though reared in pagan environment, educated in Egypt's philosophy, and surrounded by its wealth, he overcame the handicaps of his training and was used to deliver millions from Egyptian darkness and bondage. Egyptian world power was defeated, and world history changed because of the biblical training received under his mother, Jochebed.

The Bible records Lot's loss of everything precious, including his wife and most of his children, in Heaven's fiery judgment upon Sodom. The two daughters who escaped experienced catastrophe worse than death. The account warns as to the results of spiritual carelessness and looseness in rearing a family and home conduct. Scripture also records that Abraham was enlightened, protected, and delivered from such judgment as Sodom and Gomorrah experienced because he honored God in home life through teaching his children Bible truth.

The parents of John the Baptist performed a constructive worldwide work for mankind and God through their home life and their child. Christian parents should ever remember the wondrous eternal possibilities for Christ that Christian homes and families offer. Such homes constitute this country's most needed bulwark at all times, especially in present days. They are possible only as Jesus Christ is received as Saviour and honored as Lord by permitting Him to control the home and live His new spiritual life through those trusting Him as Saviour. These homes are maintained in the measure that biblical home standards are practiced.

Carlyle testified that the strongest spiritual influence of his youth was his mother's praying. He wrote, "The highest whom I know on earth, I saw bowed down to a higher in Heaven," and that such reached the very core of his being.

A humble Scottish home gave John G. Paton to mankind. After England warned that no person, including soldiers or sailors, should risk landing on the New Hebrides islands, he brought blessing to mankind and the Christians worldwide by his ministry among the cannibal inhabitants of those islands. He told of how he often crouched outside his father's bedroom door to hear him pray. He wrote, "For sixty years my father kept the practice of family prayer. None of us can remember any day that passed without it. No hurry for business or money, no arrival of friends or guests, no trouble or sorrow, no joy or excitement ever prevented us from kneeling around the family altar while our high priest offered himself and his children to God."

In England a Gospel tract lay upon the table of a home blessed with godly parentage. A lad read it, accepted Christ as Saviour. He founded the greatest missionary work of recent centuries, the China Inland Mission. Its hospitals, schools, works, churches, and Christian homes mount into thousands, while hundreds of thousands of Chinese lives have been transformed. Surely this home was a mighty bulwark for society, the nation, and world.

A burglar in an adjacent state married a woman alcoholic; they had nine children. One recorded the thieves, prostitutes, idiots, and murderers through the families of their children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren. At that time there were 74 defectives in society. The taxpayers have paid large sums of money because of them. Genuine Christianity is the only bulwark against such strains of social pollution.

A preacher acquaintance has a father living at 88 and mother at 86. They supervise a home for children of missionaries in foreign service. This couple was blessed with eight children, each of them living definite, constructive Christian lives; a number entered full-time Christian service. The same trend is manifest among grandchildren and great grandchildren.

America never needed Christian homes more than during present war-cursed days, so full of doubt, darkness, debauchery, destruction, distress, and death. A well-known military chaplain of the last war in appealing to American parents to rear their children along Christian lines, said:

"For four busy and heart-breaking years as a chaplain I have tried to be Pastor, Parent, and Brother to American servicemen. With my own eyes I have seen hundreds become children of God and begin living for Christ in most difficult surroundings. I have seen the glorious results of Christian training as hundreds of men and officers, by the grace of God, demonstrated the Spirit of Christ in the camps. These things keep me alive and encouraged in service for my Lord.

"On the other hand, I have seen hundreds of men disintegrate in body, mind, and soul on the very brink of Hell. We stand helplessly by and watch with horror and amazement as men and officers sell themselves to Hell and drag their companions with them. I know and you know the cause of their moral failure. As parents, many are guilty before God and man.

"My dear friends, place no value on anything you have or on anything anybody else has unless it directly or indirectly contributes to the Christian training of your children and those of your neighbors. Regardless of what it may bring you—ridicule, social ostracism, persecution, or death, build and maintain a family altar now. You have no right to sleep or eat with children in your home untaught in the ways of Christ, until you obey the command of God to teach them His Word. More than we need food, clothes, money or shelter; more than peace, we need Christian homes!"

Oh, that Christians would prevailingly cry to God for a generation of Christian parents who

will erect a mighty Christian bulwark in their nation and church by sincerely standing with Joshua in saying, "As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord" (Joshua 24:15).

Max Jukes lived in the state of New York. He did not believe in Christian training. He married a girl of like character. From this union men have studied 1,026 descendants. Three hundred of them died prematurely. One hundred were sent to the penitentiary for an average of thirteen years each. One hundred and ninety were public prostitutes. There were one hundred drunkards. The family cost the state one million two hundred thousand dollars. They made no helpful contribution to society.

Jonathan Edwards, one of the greatest minds that God has given America, lived in the same state. He believed in Christian training. He married a girl of like character. From this union men have studied 729 descendants. Of this number came three hundred preachers, 65 college professors, 13 university presidents, 60 authors of good books, 3 United States congressmen and one vice-president of the United States; and barring one grandson who married a questionable character, the family has not cost the state a single dollar. The difference in the two families was caused by Christian home training and heart conversion.

Many times during my ministry have I rejoiced to see a father, a mother, or both definitely believe the Bible's message that they as sinners needed a Saviour and God's salvation; also confess their belief that Jesus Christ is God's only salvation. They trusted in His death on Calvary to atone for their sins. They definitely received Him as Saviour, believing God's Word that "to as many as received Him, to them [would He give] power to become the sons of God (John 1:12). Their lives have been transformed and Chris-

When a man knows what the Bible says do, but says, "I want to think it over,"—that man has already done wrong. When a man who is determined to do right learns what the Bible says do, he doesn't need to think it over. He already knows what he ought to do and knows what he will do.

—Dr. Bob Jones, Sr.

tian homes established. Pastoring in the same field 38 years, I have seen their children develop as Christians and establish constructive Christian homes. May God enable every reader who has not followed this biblical course to do so immediately and also enable those who have done so to continue throughout earth's pilgrimage.

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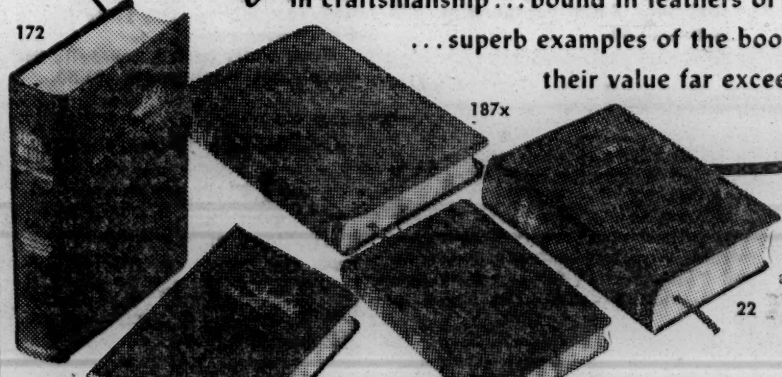
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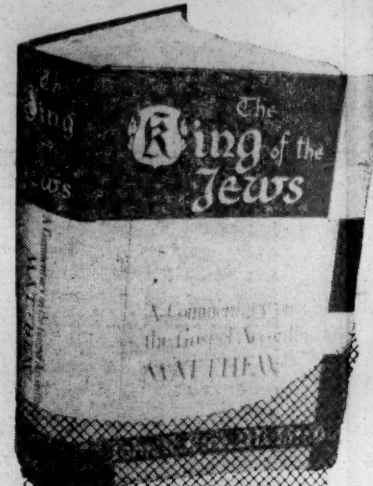
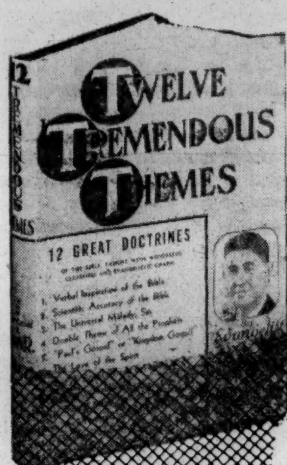
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Sad Sayings for Sinners

(Continued from page 4)

Sometimes He means for men to struggle and watch and pray and so have victory. But I do mean to say that it is not the fact of an enslaving habit or sin that keeps a man away from Christ. It is the wicked will of the sinner which makes him hold on to his sin and turn from the light and choose the darkness which makes it so God cannot save.

God can save the drunkard, the murderer, the whoremonger, the atheist instantly if in his heart he hates his sins and turns to Christ, the Light. But God cannot save the purest woman who ever lived or the most innocent child until each chooses to come to Christ. How foolish are the ultradispensationalists who teach that repentance was necessary for Jews but not for Gentiles, was fitting in the preaching of John the Baptist but not proper today! Such foolish talk springs from an utter misunderstanding of the unregenerate heart and of the Bible. Everyone who is ever to be saved must face this innate love for sin and darkness, this natural antipathy to Christ and the light of the Gospel. And preachers everywhere should expose sin as the hateful wicked thing it is and urge men to repent, as did John the Baptist and Jesus and Paul, as well as Old Testament prophets.

What a sad fact is revealed in these words of Jesus that "this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. For every one that doeth evil hateth the light, neither cometh to the light, lest his deeds should be re-proved." Oh, surely if any sinner wants to do right he will turn to Christ at once for mercy!

III. Such Love and Compassion Rejected—Matt. 23:37, 38

We have already used two sad verses that talk about the tragedy of sinners who will not come to Christ. In John 5:40 Jesus said, "Ye will not come to me, that ye might have life." In John 3:20 Jesus said, "For every one that doeth evil hateth the light, neither cometh to the light, lest his deeds should be re-proved." Now we have another sad saying of Jesus lamenting that sinners would not come unto Him. In Matthew 23:37 we hear the sad words of Jesus weeping over Jerusalem:

"O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, thou that killest the prophets, and stonest them which are sent unto thee, how often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen gathereth her chickens under her wings, and ye would not!"

Can you imagine the scene? It was only two days before the Feast of the Passover when Jesus would be crucified. He had spent many of the days of His ministry in Jerusalem, the Holy City. How He loved this city of David, the city of the kings, the city of the prophets, the city of the temple worship! Again and again He had tried to win the people to love and trust Him. He knew all the prophets whom they had murdered, all the preachers whom they had stoned, yet He loved them, wanted them saved.

Consider this tenderhearted Saviour weeping over the city that will murder Him in two days! And consider why is it that men hate such a good Saviour. Did the Jews find Jesus austere and unapproachable? No, He said,

"I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls" (Matt. 11:29). The harlot woman stooped to weep over His feet until her tears washed away the dust and then she dried them with the hair of her head without rebuke. Austere? Unapproachable? No, He cast seven devils out of Mary Magdalene the outcast; He took little children in His arms and blessed them; He took part in wedding feasts and Pharisees' suppers; He wept with Mary and Martha at the grave of Lazarus. No sinner ever has a right to say that Jesus is unapproachable, that He cares only for the rich, that He cannot be found by any humble heart that seeks Him.

Are, then, the demands of Jesus so difficult to fulfill? Is He a hard master? Does He take away all pleasure and leave life bitter? No, He so well said, "My yoke is easy, and my burden is light." What glad freedom every sinner has found when set free from Satan's bondage by trusting the Saviour! I have been a Christian now since I was nine years old, forty-eight years ago, and a preacher of the Gospel for thirty years. If I had a dozen sons, I would want each one to be a preacher. Three of my daughters have married preachers and I shall be deeply disappointed if any of the other three marries less than an anointed servant of God. Oh, no! Jesus is not a hard master. His way is not bitter, His yoke is not heavy and hard.

What is there wrong with Jesus that sinners will not have Him? Is He harsh and unforgiving? No, He received the traitor's kiss of Judas on His cheek and called him "friend"! On the cross He prayed for those who killed Him, "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do." And sinners who have rejected Him forty or fifty years often still find this pleading small voice of the Holy Spirit speaking to their hearts. Jesus loves them and seeks them still.

Does Jesus offer enslavement? Is that why sinners reject Him? No, He cast out the legion of devils from the maniac of Gadara and set him free, clothed and in his right mind! When a father brought his son, often cast into the fire by devils, Jesus cast out the devils and sent the lad home,

well and sound, with his happy father. And the businessman who served Satan forty-seven years and now for ten happy years has been going about telling what wonderful things God has done for him, tells me that often as he travels over the country he passes a place where once he drank and swore with wicked men and his heart wells up in gratitude that he is no longer a slave and that he will never be driven to do those things any more.

Does Jesus ask you to give Him too much? No, He wants to give you instead life and peace and joy and a home in Heaven. I think I know as many as twenty people who found life so barren that they planned suicide, but at the last moment let Jesus Christ come in to make them happy and free.

Every sinner who reads this should remember that it is a weeping Saviour whom he rejects, a Saviour weeping over the sinner's lost soul. It is a compassionate Saviour whom you reject. How many times He would have drawn you to His heart! He knows that you are of a race of sinners. He knows every secret of your vile heart. Yet He loves you and died for you.

Surely it is one of the saddest sayings in the Bible that the people over whom Christ yearns and broods, the people He would so often have hugged to His bosom in forgiveness and peace, would not come. Jesus said, "How often I would . . . and ye would not!"

The same teaching is given in Revelation 3:20 where Jesus said, "Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me." Christ stands at the door and knocks, but you ignore Him and go to Hell. Christ stands at the door and knocks and pleads, but you bar the door and continue in a sin that damns you. How sad it is that Christ says, "How often I would . . . and ye would not!"

But You Can!

To millions of sinners Christ says sadly, "You would not." Christ has called and you have refused. You would not come to Christ. But you can! Thank God, you can turn to Christ and be saved today, this hour, this moment! How may you be saved?

By repentance and faith in Jesus Christ as Saviour. And that simply means that you acknowledge you are a sinner, and turn your heart from your sin, and depend on Jesus Christ to save you. You cannot save yourself. You cannot make yourself good. But you can want to be saved. You can be willing to be saved. You can come to Christ for salvation. And that is repentance and faith. The moment you admit yourself a sinner and turn to Jesus for forgiveness and salvation, trusting Him to save, that moment He will forgive and save you, will give you a new heart, will make you a child of God, will write your name down in the heavenly records as a born-again Christian.

"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life" (John 3:16). God loves you, Jesus died for you. The moment you depend upon Him, rely upon Him, commit your soul into His hands, in penitent faith—that moment your sins are forgiven, your soul saved. Will you do it?

If you will here and now decide for Christ, turn to Him, trust Him, I beg you to first say yes in your heart to Him and then sign the following decision form, copy it in a letter, and mail it to me today.

Evangelist John R. Rice, Editor
SWORD OF THE LORD, Box 420
Wheaton, Illinois

Dear Brother Rice:

I realize I am a poor lost sinner. I ought to have been saved before now. But I am so glad that God loves me and Jesus died for me. I here and now turn to Christ in my heart. I want Him to save me. I trust Him to save me. I give Him my heart today. This moment I will rely on Him to forgive me as He promised to do and to save me. I will claim Him openly as my Saviour and set out to live for Him today.

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I am far within the mark when I say that all the armies that ever marched, and all the navies that ever were built, and all the parliaments that ever sat, and all the kings that ever reigned, put together, have not affected the life of man upon this earth as powerfully as has that one solitary life—the life of Christ.

—Phillips Brooks

The Second Coming

(Continued from page 1)

it was of this meeting He was thinking before the morning stars sang together.

Commanded to Watch for Christ's Coming

We are not told when Jesus will come, but we are told that His coming is sure, and we are charged to watch for it. Yet the church today shows as little concern about His coming again as His disciples did about His going away. All of this is fully in accord with Peter: "There shall come in the last days scoffers walking after their own lusts, saying, Where is the promise of his coming, for since the fathers fell asleep all things continue as they were from the beginning until now?" (II Peter 3:3, 4).

Jesus not only foretold His going away, but charged His followers to expect His return, and be ready for it: "Watch therefore,

to travel on a train where the engineer would never read his orders? Who would ride on a ship where the captain never looked at the compass? You may call it rubbish, but the disciples called it the "blessed hope." "Why call ye me Lord, Lord and do not the things I say?"

If Jesus had said, "I will not return for two thousand years," nobody would have begun to look for Him before the time was near, but He expects His followers to be always looking for His return. Just as Simeon and Anna watched and waited for His first coming, so we should be watching and waiting for His return. It is not enough to say, "Oh, I'm a Christian; I'm all right." We are not all right unless we obey the command to watch, for it is certainly as much of a command to look for the coming of the Lord as it is to keep the Sabbath holy. Nothing else will do so much to keep us right where we should be in our religious experience. Knowing that the bank examiner may drop in at any moment keeps many a cashier from becoming dishonest.

A little more than twenty years ago Mr. Moody called a convention of Christian workers to meet in Chicago, and that convention was in session there in Moody's Church for two months, and out of it came the great Bible Institute. The daily program was to spend the forenoon at the church in prayer and Bible study, and the afternoon and evening in doing practical Christian work. A man who was my assistant some years ago attended that convention. He told me that one day Mr. Moody asked him to go down among the anarchists, in the hard

Look at the lukewarmness and indifference in the churches everywhere, and see what many of them are compelled to resort to in order to keep from going under. See to what schemes and dodges and foolishness some preachers have to resort to to get anybody to go and hear them.

There can be no millennium until Jesus comes; it is His presence that makes the millennium. You might as well talk of daylight not coming until the sun goes down. The millennium cannot begin until Satan has been bound in the pit. Nothing is more certain than that the glory of God shall cover the earth, but it will be after Jesus comes.

Many have an idea the world will grow better and better until the coming of the millennium, and everybody will be converted, and you hear that stuff preached, but the Bible does not teach any such trash.

On the day before the flood there were no doubt many people who were sincere in thinking that the world was growing better, and yet it was so hopelessly wicked that God had to destroy it. Some of the men who married into the family of Lot may have made the same claim for Sodom, only a day or two before its destruction; no doubt Lot's wife was of the same opinion. On the day before the crucifixion there were men in Jerusalem who undoubtedly agreed with each other that the world was growing better. The world will grow worse and worse. They did eat, they drank, they married wives, they were given in marriage until the day that Noah entered the ark and the flood came and destroyed them all. Likewise also as it was in the days of Lot; they did eat, they drank, they bought, they sold, they planted, they builded. But the same day that Lot went out of Sodom it rained fire and brimstone from Heaven and destroyed them all. Even thus shall it be on the day when the Son of Man is revealed (Luke 17:27-30). Lawlessness, vice and crime will increase; communism, nihilism, anarchy, adultery, divorce, graft—all will continue to grow until they will finally ripen into the anti-Christ.

Many think and preach that the millennium will be brought about by the increase of knowledge, culture, great discoveries, such as the gasoline engine, automobile, electricity, radium, liquified air, wireless telegraphy, airships, etc. These have nothing to do with bringing the millennium. It is the personal reign of Christ that brings the millennium. Those who have been the greatest blessing to the world were filled with this hope—and preached it.

Human Tradition Spiritualizes and Explains Away the Scriptures

The word of God was vitiated and neutralized by the traditions of men when Jesus first came, and that is very largely the trouble in present times. Instead of going to the Bible to find out what God says, the preacher is too apt to go to his books, to see what the great men of his church have to say about it, and all their preaching and teaching takes its color from the glasses the rabbis wear, just as was the case in the time of Jesus.

The fact that Jesus was not recognized by the high-up authorities, but was rejected and crucified as an impostor, shows what a dangerous and deadly thing it is to accept the traditions of men rather than what God says about things. Too many who are now masters in Israel are as much in the dark as Nicodemus was. The truth is no harder to get at than corn on the cob, if we will first strip off the husk and shell it. We need to depend more upon the Holy Spirit and less upon our libraries if we would preach so that those who hear us will also hear the voice of God in our message.

It is not what Doctor This or Professor That has to say about it that settles the question, and settles it right, but how reads the Word? What does the Bible say about it? And what we need to do is to take the Bible as it reads, not as some big man says it means. Big men have been mistaken about vital things just as often as little ones. The safest pilot is not the one who wears the

biggest hat, but the one who knows the channel the best. We should let the Bible speak to us just as God means it should, without distorting it by the prejudices and vagaries of those who are always trying to put their own camel into it and strain out somebody else's gnat.

It is high time for Christians to interpret unfulfilled prophecies by the light of prophecies already fulfilled. The curses on the Jews were brought to pass literally; so also will be the blessings. The scattering was literal; so also will be the gathering. The pulling down of Zion was literal; so also must be the building up. The rejection of Israel was literal; and so also must be the restoration. The first coming of Christ was literal, visible and personal, and what right has anybody to conclude that His second coming will be altogether spiritual? If His first advent was with a real body, why not the same with His second coming?

When Jesus first came, the smallest predictions were fulfilled to the very letter; and should this not teach us to expect that the same will be true when He comes again? There are very many more prophecies concerning His second coming than His first, and does this mean that God wants to give us the most favorable opportunity possible to prepare for it? If the humility and shame of Christ at His first coming was literal and visible, should not His coming in power and glory be also literal and visible?

What right have we to say that the words Judah, Zion, Israel and Jerusalem ever mean anything but literal Judah, Zion, Israel and Jerusalem? Some one has called attention to the fact that there are only two or three places in the whole New Testament where such names are used in what may be called a spiritual or figurative way. Jerusalem occurs eighty times, and in every case is unquestionably literal, except when the opposite is clearly indicated by such qualifying terms as "heavenly," "new," or "holy." Jew occurs a hundred times, and only four are even ambiguous. Israel and Israelite occur forty times, and all literal. Judah and Judea about twenty times, and literal in every case.

John Bunyan was once studying the passages foretelling that the feet of the Lord should stand on the Mount of Olives, and he thus reasoned: "Some commentators say that the Mount of Olives means the heart of the believer; that it is only a figurative

expression, and means that the Lord will reign in the heart of the believer, and the Holy Spirit will dwell there. But I don't think it means that at all. I just think it means the Mount of Olives, two miles from Jerusalem, on the east." And that is why the Lord could use the poor tinker so marvelously, even when he was shut up in Bedford jail.

While face to face with them, Jesus taught His disciples to be in constant expectation of His early return, and they so understood Him and lived accordingly. They preached the doctrine and taught it in their epistles, every one of them. Certainly, if anybody ever understood the Lord correctly, it was the men whom He personally trained to do that very thing, that they might hand the truth He gave them down to us. If they failed to understand Him, what hope is there that anybody else may do so?

Christ Waits the Completion of His Mystical Body Before He Comes

Jesus is going to come and reveal Himself to the members of His body at the very moment when the last soul is saved necessary to complete that body—for the body of Christ must consist of a certain number of souls, or it never could be completed. If it were an infinite number it would be an endless task, and Jesus would never return, for He can no more come without His heavenly body than He could come the first time without a human body. It is the completion of the body of Christ, therefore, that will bring Him, and this shows how we may help and hasten His coming. "Looking for and hasting unto the coming of the day of God wherein the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved and the elements shall melt with fervent heat" (II Pet. 3:12).

Every time we do personal work or try to get anybody saved, we may be doing something that will bring the coming of the Lord. Instead of being discouraged by looking about us and seeing what a small prospect there is of the whole world being converted, it will set our bones on fire to think

(Continued on page 11)

Editor's Birthday December 11

You may celebrate the editor's birthday by sending your Christmas gift subscriptions to THE SWORD OF THE LORD. Send ten subscriptions for \$19; receive the big new library bound volume, *Is God a "Dirty Bully"?* and *Other Sensational Sermons* by John R. Rice, free. Or the book is free with three subscriptions for \$7, or with one subscription for \$3.

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for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come. Therefore, be ye also ready, for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of Man cometh" (Matt. 24:42-44).

Every time we lift the communion cup to our lips we "do show forth the Lord's death till he come." There is no prophecy needing to be fulfilled before Christ comes. Jesus said: "This gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; then shall the end come" (Matt. 24:14). There is not a nation on the face of the earth that has not had the Gospel preached within its bounds.

The second coming of Christ is the emphatic doctrine of the New Testament. It is mentioned and referred to more than three hundred and fifty times, and yet the majority of church members never heard a sermon on the subject; that is the reason they think so little of looking into the matter themselves. The church makes much of baptism, but in all of Paul's epistles baptism is only mentioned or referred to thirteen times, while the return of the Lord is mentioned fifty times. This certainly shows which he considered the most important.

McCheyne, the great Scotch preacher, once said to some of his friends: "Do you think Christ will come back tonight?" One after another they said, "I think not"; then he solemnly repeated: "Watch, therefore, for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come. Therefore, be ye also ready, for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of Man cometh" (Matt. 22:42-44).

With such admonitions as this, what right have we to be unconcerned about it and say, as many preachers do, "It is nothing to me; I take no interest in the subject whatever"? Who would care

part of Chicago, and hold a meeting there. "Do the best you can," said Mr. Moody, "and some night I'll come down and help you." My friend said that promise was a continual incentive to him to keep up his courage and do his very best. He didn't know when Mr. Moody would come, and so he looked for him every night, and the harder time he had, the harder he hoped and looked. This shows how the constant expectation of the coming of Jesus will inspire and encourage us.

No Millennium of Peace and Righteousness Till Jesus Comes

A great many say, "I believe the millennium will come first, then Christ will come at the end of it." What people think has nothing to do with it, but what God says has everything to do with it. Many have missed railroad trains because they believed they would come at a time that did not correspond with the official time card. You will see God's time card if you carefully read the Bible. Not a word can be found in the Bible that gives the slightest hope for the millennium before the return of Christ; but you can find plenty of verses that tell you to look for the coming of the Lord first.

As we look back over the two thousand years since Christ, how far we seem to be away from the time when the will of God shall be done on earth as it is in Heaven. Every edition of the press seems to make it clear that the Devil is still having his way.

Look at the reign of wickedness in our great cities in both high life and low. No college has ever yet made a saint, or ever will. Education may improve conditions, but it can never change or cleanse the heart.

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Big Men

George Washington shocked General Lafayette one morning by merely being what the father of our country described as a gentleman. It seems George Washington and Lafayette were talking together when a slave passed. The old colored man paused, tipped his hat, and said, "Good mo'nin', Gen'l Washin'ton."

Immediately George Washington removed his hat, bowed and wished the man a pleasant day.

After a moment of shocked silence General Lafayette exclaimed, "Why did you bow to a slave?"

The great man smiled and replied, "I would not allow him to be a better gentleman than I."

—Billie Avis Hoy, in
Gospel Herald

Two Birthdays . . .

(Continued from page 1)

in our office at Wheaton before December 11.

But while you celebrate the birthday of the Lord Jesus Christ by sending subscriptions, in His name, you may celebrate the birthday of this unworthy editor. On December 11, 1895, I was born in a country home in Cooke County, Texas. So on next December 11 I will be sixty-three years old. I do not ask any birthday present for myself. If I am to have any crowns in Heaven I hope to cast them at the Saviour's feet. And if there are those who love me, who have been blessed by THE SWORD OF THE LORD, and who want to make me happy now, I hope that they will send subscriptions for Jesus' sake, and to help others, and that will be birthday present enough for me!

I want 10,000 subscriptions sent in lots of ten (at the rate of ten yearly subscriptions for \$19, with big book *Is God a "Dirty Bully"?*

free). For that birthday I want thousands of other subscriptions sent, single subscriptions at \$3 with the book free, or three yearly subscriptions for \$7 with the book free. And then I want \$10,000 sent to pay for subscriptions to our Ministers and Missionary Subscription Gift Fund. Thousands of missionaries, thousands of national pastors in many countries, hundreds of ministerial students and retired preachers want and need THE SWORD OF THE LORD. I am asking those who love THE SWORD OF THE LORD thus to celebrate my birthday while they celebrate the birthday of the Lord Jesus. And whatever you do, do in Jesus' dear name, and we will all rejoice together.

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December 11 is the deadline beyond which we fear we could not get subscriptions enrolled in time

for Christmas. We will earnestly try to get a lovely Christmas greeting card mailed to every Christmas gift subscriber, announcing your gift, if the subscription is received by December 11. We will earnestly try to get the lovely Christmas issue in their hands before Christmas. Even so, it will be hard, eager, desperate work to do that.

And now let me ask a favor. Usually toward the close of a subscription campaign there is a great flood of late subscriptions. Workers in the office have to work overtime. There is a great strain to get things out on time. You can help us greatly if you will send your subscriptions early. Get them to us as soon as possible, as far ahead of the December 11 deadline for Christmas subscriptions as you can.

In getting out the book *Is God a "Dirty Bully"?* some men worked as long as sixteen and twenty hours a day. Sometimes our press was running until one or two o'clock in the morning. Secretaries and proof readers worked overtime too. God bless these good workers, so loyal, so eager to please the Lord Jesus! But please be as kind to my helpers as you can and get your subscriptions in early.

Is It Too Much?

I am asking that 1,000 people send in ten or more subscriptions at the rate of ten subscriptions for \$19, and thus get the big new book of sensational sermons free. Is that too much to expect? I do not think so. We have more than that who are faithful friends of THE SWORD OF THE LORD. There are far more than that number among our readers who will spend far more than the \$19 for ten neighbors, friends, or relatives. For \$19 you may have ten wonderful gifts, sending THE SWORD OF THE LORD for fifty-two big issues, a constant reminder of your love and prayers and thoughtfulness and good taste. Besides, you will have the book *Is God a "Dirty Bully"?* for your own pleasure, or for a gift.

Many who read this ought to send THE SWORD to at least one hundred people while they can get such a remarkable offer. Some good man in every community would do well to send THE SWORD to every resident family in his church.

Then we ask that thousands of others send their own renewal. Don't you think it is a little silly and childish to let the time slip by, and neglect to renew, when you can get THE SWORD OF THE LORD a full year plus this big book *Is God a "Dirty Bully"?* and *Other Sensational Sermons* for only \$3? Or better yet, you could renew your subscription for three full years for \$7 and get the book free. Many who read this ought to renew their own subscriptions immediately, no matter whatever else they do for others. It does not honor God for Christians to starve their spiritual souls while getting fat on Christmas turkey.

Then I want others to do what I am going to do, that is, to send THE SWORD OF THE LORD to ministers and missionaries and ministerial students, and to other

Christians who need THE SWORD OF THE LORD as a missionary gift. I want to give as largely as I can toward the Sword Ministers and Missionary Gift Fund. I hope that at least \$10,000 will come designated for the Ministers and Missionary Subscription Gift Fund. And remember that for every gift of \$3 or more designated for this fund during this campaign, you get a free copy of the 202-page book, *Is God a "Dirty Bully"?* and *Other Sensational Sermons*. This beautiful, hard-bound library volume, two-color cover, yours free with subscriptions as outlined above.

Do Not "Sin by Silence"!

It was Abraham Lincoln, I think, who said, "To sin by silence when they should protest, makes cowards of men." Let me say frankly that I think duty enters into everything a Christian does or leaves undone. I do not believe there is any area of life in which a Christian has a right to decide his course of action without reference to how it pleases God. I believe that even in the matter of sending in subscriptions people ought to side in with that which is right.

Do you believe the standards of doctrine and principles stated on the front page of every issue of THE SWORD OF THE LORD? Then you should show your agreement by act as well as by word. You should take sides.

Are you for the twenty-four years of fighting to bring back revivals, the twenty-four years of calling God's people to a separated, clean life, which THE SWORD OF THE LORD has spent? Then you should take sides by sending subscriptions. Are you for our defense of the faith, our insistence on having no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, or our insistence on not yoking up with infidels who would break down faith in the Bible and in the deity and virgin birth and atoning blood of the Lord Jesus Christ? Then it is time to take sides.

Often times a man keeps silence when he ought to speak, and so becomes a coward. Like Joseph of Arimathea, he is a secret disciple, because he is afraid of somebody, but thereby he loses his testimony.

The editor of THE SWORD OF THE LORD is poor enough, God knows. But at least he honestly tries to take sides on moral and spiritual questions, to the glory of God. God forbid that we should "sin by silence" when we ought to speak, and so by silence become cowards.

We hope you will pray for THE SWORD OF THE LORD. But to pray about THE SWORD and then not do your own part to spread the Gospel and to unify Christians around the Word of God and soul winning would not honor Christ.

We are glad for the many, many thousands of letters we get, expressing gratitude for THE SWORD OF THE LORD. But now that gratitude ought to be expressed in subscriptions for others, and prompt renewal of your own subscription as far ahead as you reasonably can do.

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"Sword Wit Sharpener"

Philip and the Ethiopian

Acts 8

CLEWS ACROSS

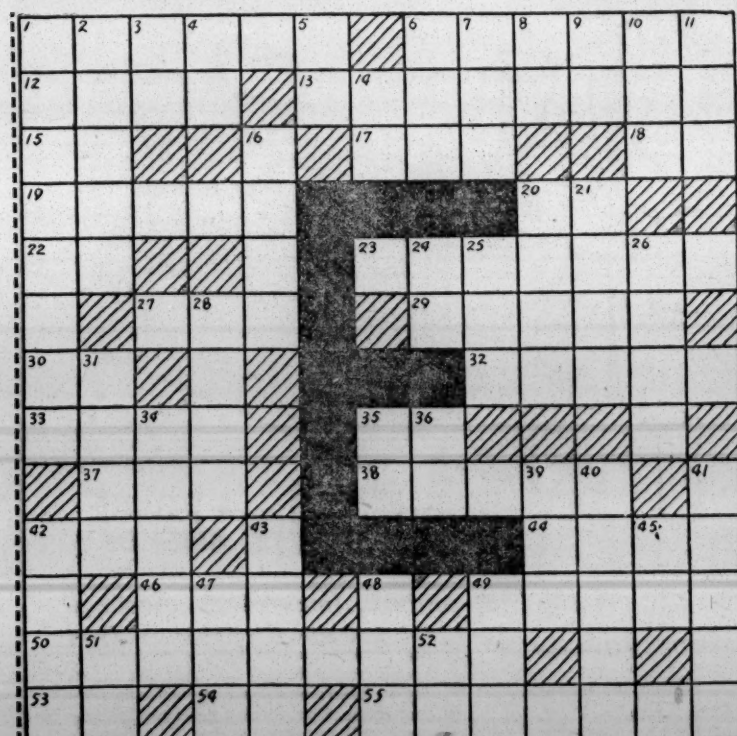
- 1 "The angel of the Lord spake unto . . ."
- 6 "Sitting in his chariot read . . . the prophet"
- 12 "And heard him . . . the prophet Esaias"
- 13 "Behold, a man of . . ."
- 15 Each (abbr.)
- 17 A combining form meaning "bone," —s—
- 18 Dead weight (abbr.)
- 19 "And he . . . and went."
- 20 Old Testament (abbr.)
- 22 Cent (abbr.)
- 23 "And had come to Jerusalem for to . . ."
- 27 Africa (abbr.)
- 29 A citrous fruit
- 30 Established Church (abbr.)
- 32 "Saying, Arise, and go toward the . . ."
- 33 "Unto the way that goeth . . . from Jerusalem"
- 35 "Went . . . his way rejoicing"
- 37 "How can I, except some . . . should guide me?"
- 38 "An eunuch of . . . authority under Candace"
- 42 Soak flax, r—
- 44 Vessel used for navigation
- 46 A son of Benjamin (Gen. 46)
- 49 "He was led as a . . . to the slaughter."
- 50 "Opened his mouth, and began at the same . . ."
- 53 "And . . . baptized him."
- 54 "What doth hinder . . . to be baptized?"
- 55 "I . . . that Jesus Christ is the Son of God."

CLEWS DOWN

- 1 "And . . . unto him Jesus"
- 2 "If thou believest with all thine . . . , thou mayest."
- 3 A northcentral state (abbr.)
- 4 Lord (abbr.)
- 5 Protestant Episcopal (abbr.)
- 6 Exclamations of inquiry
- 7 "Desired Philip that he would come up and . . . with him"
- 8 Army Order (abbr.)
- 9 Installment paid (abbr.)
- 10 Help
- 11 "Caught away Philip, that the eunuch . . . him no more"
- 14 "And he commanded the chariot . . . stand still."
- 16 "Go . . . and join thyself to this chariot."
- 20 Combining form meaning odor, —m—
- 21 "Understandest . . . what . . . readest?"
- 24 Oleum (abbr.)
- 25 Thing (Law)
- 26 "They went down both . . . the water."
- 28 Native of Finland
- 31 "When they were . . . up out of the water"
- 34 "They came unto a certain . . ."
- 35 King of Bashan (Josh. 13)
- 36 Near (abbr.)
- 39 Kind of tree
- 40 Plural of "this"
- 41 A fruit
- 42 Overhasty in decision
- 43 Mature
- 45 Indian Empire (abbr.)
- 47 "And Philip ran thither to . . ."
- 48 Central part of a wheel
- 49 Self (Scot.)
- 51 Civil Engineer (abbr.)
- 52 Second tone of the scale

Deadline: December 8, 1958

PUZZLE NO. 48



Please check one! Which Bible are you still working for?
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Puzzle Number 48

Christmas Poems

By Martha Snell Nicholson



Here is a delightful little book of poems and meditations about Christmas. There are thirteen in all, and each has a special message of its own which will warm your heart. You will especially want to read this book during the Christmas season and to learn some of the poems.

Some of the interesting titles are "His Son's Birthday," "Suppose," "Inn Keeper," "On Christmas Eve," "Christmas Gifts," "This Christmas Day," and "Christmas Meditation." "Christmas Meditation" is especially tender and sweet as it pictures the true significance of the Lord of lords' coming to dwell among and to die for sinful men.

THE RULES

1. Fill in the empty blanks according to the clues given. Answers must be complete and correct.

2. PRINT (not write) your name and address in the blank below the puzzle. (Please include country in foreign addresses.) This coupon will serve as your address label for the envelope containing your prize. Mail to: PUZZLE EDITOR, THE SWORD OF THE LORD, Wheaton, Illinois. If you do not wish to cut up your copy of the paper, you may print (not more than three inches wide) on a separate sheet of paper your name and address, and the answers according to the clue numbers given. Entries will not be returned.

3. In order for you to receive the book, *Christmas Poems*, your entry must be postmarked by midnight, December 8, 1958. If your paper arrives after the deadline date, please place the date of arrival on the entry. The answer to Puzzle Number 48 will appear in the December 19 issue of THE SWORD OF THE LORD.

4. Each person having a correct entry will receive a coupon along the weekly prize. Save these coupons! They are important! At the end of the year those who have fifty coupons will receive a Scofield Bible. Those who have as many as thirty coupons will re-

ceive a World Bible. Please remember that the coupons you have are the only record of your correct entries. It will be your responsibility to keep the coupons. In addition, note that coupons may not be exchanged with one another. The winning of a Bible is on an individual and not a group basis. Please limit all correspondence to only necessary items, and always include your complete address.

Answer to Puzzle No. 45

AND ALL THE
T SEAT MADE
OAK TOO MEN S
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T E L L C O M A D
H I M W A L K I N G E
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AND PRAISING
E V A E O T T O D A
T E M P L E A F E E T
A E A G O D A C R E

The Second Coming

(Continued from page 9)

that perhaps the last man needed to complete the Lord's body and bring Jesus back to earth may be converted this very day. That gives us something definite and tangible to work for, and hope for, don't you see?

Colonel Clark, the founder of the Pacific Garden Mission, in Chicago, put in six nights out of every seven at the mission as long as he lived. One day somebody said to him: "Colonel, why don't you take some rest? You are killing yourself by sticking to that mission so close. Why don't you take a vacation and go away somewhere and rest?"

"I can't do it, brother," answered the Colonel. "I could never do that, for every time I start for the mission I think, Maybe that last man may be saved in our little meeting tonight, and the Lord will come; and I wouldn't miss being at my post for anything in the world. When Jesus comes I want to be right where He expects me to be."

The Bible very clearly makes known the great truth that God's purpose for this dispensation is the completing of the body of Christ. He is not trying to save the world now; that is to be the work of the next dispensation. Here is the Scripture for it:

"God at the first did visit the Gentiles, to take out of them a people for his name. [The body of Christ]. And to this agree the words of the prophets; as it is written, After this I will return, and will build again the tabernacle of David [the Jewish nation] which is fallen down [scattered and no longer being used]; and I will build again the ruins thereof, and I will set it up; that the residue of men might seek after the Lord" [Through their missionary efforts]—Acts 15:14-17.

That is the present dispensation, and that is what God is doing now. There is nothing said here about the conversion of the world, but it is made clear that a people is being chosen, and much Scripture might be quoted to show that the people so referred to, will constitute the body of Christ. Throughout this dispensation the Lord has been working among the Gentiles (those not belonging to the Jewish nation), and the above shows the purpose for which He has been working. There is no thought expressed there of the millennium.

"And to this agree the words of the prophets [about God's purpose in gathering a chosen people from the Gentiles]. As it is written [and that means what God says], After this [after the number of people to be chosen from the Gentiles has been fully completed] I will return [to direct dealing with Israel] and build again the tabernacle of David which is fallen down."—Acts 15:16.

"Fallen down." What does that mean? What does it mean for a house to be fallen down? Certainly that it cannot longer be used as a house while in that condition. Read the prophecy of Amos, from which this is taken, and see why it is that God is through with Israel until He has taken from the Gentiles the people for His name. (To bear His name, to glorify His name.)

The mission of the church—the bride of Christ, or body of Christ—is to get ready to meet the Bridegroom. When the body of Christ is completed, He will reveal Himself to the members who are alive and in this world at that time, and at the same moment they will be caught up to meet those who have gone on before in the air, and from that moment they are forever with the Lord.

There remains no prophecy to be fulfilled. There is not a nation where the Gospel has not been preached. So Christ must be waiting for the completion of the body of believers. When the rapture comes it will come in the twinkling of an eye. Those who have died in the Lord will be resurrected, and they, with the believers who are alive, will be caught up to meet the Lord in the air.

Rapture for Saints: Tribulation for Those Left Behind

When the rapture comes it will come in the twinkling of an eye, and will be altogether unexpected except by those who have been searching the prophecies and are looking for it, just as Simeon and Anna and the wise men were looking for Jesus at His first coming.

The notion that people have about the second coming of Christ is that when He comes the judgment day will also come, and that the world will come to an end. This idea is unscriptural and shows how little the Bible has been searched to find and make known the real truth by those who are leaders and teachers in the church. Business will go on and governments will go on as now. After Jesus comes and takes the believers out of the world, then takes place the great tribulation, a description of which you will find later on. At the close of the tribulation the Lord will return, bringing with Him His saintly members of His body, to begin His millennium reign. Then He will reveal Himself to the Jews. They will accept Him as their long-rejected Messiah. Then the millennium will begin; the

How Much I Owe

*When this passing world is done,
When has sunk yon glowing sun,
When we stand with Christ in glory,*

*Looking o'er life's finished story,
Then, Lord, shall I fully know—
Not till then—how much I owe.*

*When I stand before the throne,
Dressed in beauty not my own,
When I see Thee as Thou art,
Love Thee with unswerving heart,
Then, Lord, shall I fully know—
Not till then—how much I owe.*

*When the praise of heaven I hear,
Loud as thunder to the ear,
Loud as many water's noise,
Sweet as harp's melodious voice,
Then, Lord, shall I fully know—
Not till then—how much I owe.*

*Even on earth, as through a glass
Darkly, let Thy glory pass,
Make forgiveness feel so sweet,
Make Thy Spirit's help to meet.
Even on earth, Lord, make me know
Something of how much I owe.*

—Robert Murray McChesney.

Devil will be cast into the bottomless pit for a thousand years; nations will be born in a day, through the missionary efforts of the Jews.

The Jews have always been full of energy in business, as no other people, and when they become ambassadors for Christ there will be no lukewarmness or indifference. Either before or during the tribulation the Jews will have been restored to the Holy Land, rebuilding their temple and restoring the Jewish worship. Also during the tribulation the Antichrist will come, most likely in the person of some great king. It is supposed that he will be a personal incarnation of the Devil, just as Jesus was an incarnation of God. He will go to Jerusalem, and there do great signs and wonders, by which he will so delude the chosen people that they will accept him as their Messiah, and pay him divine honors in the temple. It will be during this that Jesus will return and destroy him by the brightness of His coming.

"And then shall that Wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming; even him, whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders."—II Thess. 2:8, 9.

In the Lord's coming there are to be two distinct phases—His coming for the members of His body, and revelation to them at the time of the rapture, or taking up into the air; and His coming with the members of His body, at the close of the tribulation, when He is revealed to the Jews and destroys the Antichrist. Overlooking these two phases has put some people in confusion about the order of events, just as the failure to distinguish between the prophecies pertaining to the first and second coming confused the Jews, who rejected Jesus, through what they supposed to

be His failure to fulfill prophecy. Let us consider, in the first place, something of what it may mean to have a part in that meeting in the air:

1. *Well, the most glorious thing about it is that if we are there we shall be members of the body of Jesus Christ.* It will mean that we are members of the royal family of the universe; that we are kings and princes who are to sit on the throne and reign with Jesus, and that we shall be with Him forevermore, never to be separated from Him again. And this will mean that we shall be the most exalted beings in all the universe, for who could be higher than the sons of God, or the bride of our Lord? In talking to men, God must of course use the language of men, but He can only put into our words just a little of what He would tell us. A very little looking into the matter, however, will show that He has used the most expressive words in our language to show how near and precious is to be our relationship to Him. In fact, He has used about all the words we have that could be used for that purpose, as "members of his body," his "bride," and "sons of God."

2. *If we have a place in that meeting in the air, it will mean that we are like Christ, for "when he shall appear we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is."* The true child of God is always longing to be like His Master, and this heart-yearning is the sure prophecy of what we shall then be. It will also mean that we shall nevermore be separated from Him. The Devil will never again have power to separate us from Him for a single moment, and wherever He is, there shall we be also. The fact that Jesus is to be here during the millennium would be proof conclusive that we shall be here with Him; even if there were no other Scripture for it.

3. *For some that meeting will mean that they reached it without having to pass through death, for it is to be composed of those who have gone on before, and those who are still living at that time.* Some who are born into this world are never to die, and we may hope to be of that elect number. The Christian has no business to be looking for death. It is his right to hope to live forever, and instead of expecting to go to the grave, he should be looking for the coming of his Lord, and the meeting in the air.

4. *It will also mean that we shall then have bodies that will remain young forever.* Pains and aches, gray hair, wrinkles and feebleness will never again be known. Listen to this:

"Behold, I show you a mystery: we shall not all sleep [die], but we shall all be changed. In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump, for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible [no longer subject to age or decay], and we shall be changed" [into his likeness].—I Cor. 15:51, 52.

And it will come in the twinkling of an eye—in a moment—and that moment will be what all time was made for. In that moment some will give up old age to be young forever. Others will go from beds of pain upon which they may have lain prostrate for years. Others, from the most grinding poverty, will spring to eternal wealth. Some will go from burdens from which they expected no relief save death. From what tribulations and troubles and afflictions will not that moment be a deliverance, and how the angels will begin to crowd the battlements of Heaven upon that glad meeting when they know it is about to come! In a moment! In the twinkling of an eye!

"Come, Lord Jesus; come quickly," ought to be the daily prayer of every Christian heart. And yet as we look about us now, and see how the Devil seems to be having his way as much as ever, it looks as if that great time would never come. But you can't tell by appearances. An hour before the tidal wave comes there is nothing to indicate that it will ever come. Nobody dreamed of an earthquake ten minutes before San Francisco began to rock and tumble.

Some time ago the president touched a golden key in the White House, and in a moment, in the

twinkling of an eye, the acres of machinery at the great Seattle Exposition, on the other side of the country, were in motion, and countless flags began to fly in the breeze; and that's the way the Lord will come. Just that quick! Quicker than a clock can tick! Quicker than lightning can flash! Ten minutes before the president touched the golden key it looked as if the machinery would never start, but when the right moment arrived it was going. "Therefore, be ye also ready, for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of Man cometh." God's clock is never behind the smallest fraction of a second.

5. *If we have a part in that meeting, it will mean that we shall be here in this world with the Lord during the millennium—a thousand years—with the Devil chained and cast out—not a saloon, gambling hell or brothel in the world, and everything just as we want it.* Hear this:

"And cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal upon him, that he should deceive the nations no more, till the thousand years should be fulfilled: and after that he must be loosed a little season. And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them; and I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received his mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands; and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years. But the rest of the dead lived not again until the thousand years were finished. This is the first resurrection. Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years."—Rev. 20:3-6.

6. *To have part in that meeting will be to meet those who have gone on before—fathers and mothers and other loved ones.* Think of how glorious and blessed that will be, and there will doubtless be infinite surprises that the Lord will have in store for us. "For it hath not entered into the heart of man the things that the Lord hath prepared for them that love him."

7. *Think of the delight of meeting and continuing with the other members of the Lord's body, who will then be as dear to us as the apple of our own eye.*

Think of being intimate with Peter, James and John, Andrew, Philip and the others, and of hearing from them again and again all the incidents they witnessed in the life of Jesus.

Think of being more intimate with Paul and Silas and Mark and Luke and Timothy, and the saints who were in Caesar's household, than we are with our very best friends now.

Think of knowing Mary, the mother of Jesus, as well as you

know your own mother, and of having for intimate friends, Martha and Mary and Lazarus of Bethany, and Mary Magdalene, and the unknown disciples who on the first Easter morning walked with their risen Lord on the way to Emmaus!

Think of talking with Zaccheus and blind Bartimeus, the daughter of Jairus, and the wild man out of whom the legion of devils were cast.

And the blind man in the ninth chapter of John—how good it will be to shake hands with him and tell him some of the good things we have so often thought about his courage. And Joseph of Aramathea, Nicodemus and the boy (Continued on page 12)

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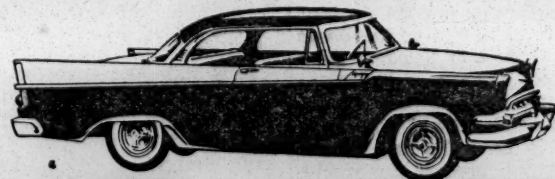
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The Second Coming

(Continued from page 11)

who had the five loaves and two fishes. And the sick woman who touched the hem of his garment; the widow who gave the two mites, and the Philippian jailer who got the old time religion in an unmistakable way; the first leper who was cleansed, and all the rest. How much we shall miss, if we miss that meeting in the air.

8. *Think of how glorious it will be to live for a thousand years in this world with our blessed Master, and be closely associated with Him; with bodies that will not wear out or grow old, always in perfect health, and with faculties for enjoyment a thousand times higher than we possess now.* The millennium will be the greatest time ever known, for it will be the golden age of man. Poverty, sickness, war and pestilence will be unknown. There will be no Devil to cause human suffering and woe.

Then think of the delight of coming back into this world, where we have had so much trouble and hardship and poverty and sickness, to live under such glorious circumstances, as will then prevail.

A man told a friend of mine that when a boy, he footed it for nearly a hundred miles over the old National Road. It was in August, the weather hot and dusty, and the boy penniless, homeless and disheartened. He had on a pair of cowhide shoes, and his feet became so sore that over much of the way he could only hobble along in great pain. A little while ago he went over the same road in an elegant automobile, and he never so enjoyed a ride in his life. The weather was fine and he had nothing to do but sit there and drink in the beauty of the day, and think of how much better off he was than when he went limping over that same road, a poor, helpless, sore-footed boy.

Well, it will be something like that with us in the millennium, perhaps, only vastly more glorious when we come back to have a good time here.

9. *It will also mean to be richly rewarded for all we have ever done or suffered for the Lord.* Near the close of his hard and strenuous life Paul said:

"Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day; and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing."—II Tim. 4:8.

Here are other verses showing there is to be a reward:

"And when the Chief Shepherd shall appear ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away."—I Pet. 5:4.

"And behold, I come quickly; and my reward is with me to give every man according as his works shall be."—Rev. 22:12.

10. *If we have a part in that meeting we shall escape the great tribulation which is to come upon all the earth as soon as the members of the body of Christ are taken out of the world.* The body of Christ is now the salt of the earth and the light of the world. It is the army with which God now holds in check the principalities and powers of evil. It is therefore evident that when this army is taken out of the world, the Devil will have unhindered sway, and will immediately begin to make this world as much like Hell as he wants it to be. In speaking of this awful time, Jesus said:

"Then shall the great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be. And except those days should be shortened, there shall no flesh be saved; but for the elect's sake those days shall be shortened."—Matt. 24:21, 22.

And here is what Daniel says of it:

"And there shall be a time of trouble such as never was since there was a nation even to that time, and at that time thy people shall be delivered (members of the Lord's body), every one that shall be found written in the Book."—Dan. 12:1.

Human imagination is incapable

of picturing the awfulness of this great tribulation, that is surely coming on the world, and may begin this very day—yes even this very hour! Think of it! It is to be the worst time the world has ever known or ever will know. A worse time than the flood; a worse time than the bondage of Egypt, and a worse time than the destruction of Jerusalem, when women and children were torn in pieces, and the very name of mercy was unknown. A worse time than the reign of Nero; worse than during the Spanish inquisition; worse than when Cortes destroyed the Aztecs; worse than during the French Revolution and the Commune, and worse than during the Dark Ages. A worse time than when men were skinned alive; worse than when they were pulled asunder by horses; worse than when men, women and children were thrown to hungry lions, and worse than when they were dipped in pitch and burned as torches.

Do you want to live in that kind of a time? Well, the only thing that can surely save you from it is to have a part in that meeting in the air, for no others who are living at that time can escape it, and that awful time may be upon us within the next ten minutes, for it will begin at

other left. Two women shall be grinding together; the one shall be taken, and the other left. Two men shall be in the field; the one shall be taken and the other left."—Luke 17:34-36.

This makes it look as if the number caught up in the air would not be large. When will the meeting in the air occur? In regard to this Jesus said:

"But of that day and hour knoweth no man, no not the angels which are in heaven—neither the Son, but the Father. Take ye heed, watch and pray; for ye know not when the time is."—Mark 13:32, 33.

But He also said, after speaking of conditions that would prevail about that time:

"So likewise ye, when ye shall see all these things know that it is near, even at the door."—Matt. 24:33.

Will the world come to an end when Jesus comes and takes away the members of His body? No, not for at least one thousand years; perhaps longer. The millennium must come after Jesus comes, and must have its beginning at the close of the great tribulation.

The real truth is, that great event will not bring destruction to anything that is good, but will, on the contrary, introduce an era

and throw the carpenters out of work.

There is nothing more clearly declared in the Bible than that Christ will come and reign on earth during the millennium, when all will be restored that was lost by the fall. Then, and only then, will God's will be done on earth as it is in Heaven. The scribes and pharisees thought that business was going to be endangered by Christ's first coming. The only business that will be hurt by the second coming of Christ will be the Devil's business. At the time of His coming there will be no general resurrection or judgment.

At the close of the millennium reign of Christ the Devil will be loosed out of the pit for a season, and look for the first time upon a world without sin. He will tempt people. They will be as foolish as now and yield to his lies and subtlety. He will gather his host and come against the saints to battle. Fire will fall from Heaven and consume them. Then takes place the resurrection of the wicked dead. Then the judgment of the great white throne, with Christ to judge.

There is this about it, however: We are living nearer to it than anybody ever lived before, and when it does come, it is going to come in a moment—in the twinkling of an eye—and the only safe course for us to pursue is to be ready for the Bridegroom when He comes.

"Take ye heed, watch and pray, for ye know not when the time is. For the Son of Man is as a man taking a far journey, who left his house and gave authority to his servants, and to every man his work, and commanded the porter to watch. Watch ye, therefore, for ye know not when the master of the house cometh, at even, or at midnight, or at the cock-crowing, or in the morning; lest coming suddenly he find you sleeping. And what I say unto you, I say unto all, watch."—Mark 13:33-36.

We are not told when Jesus will come, but we are told that His coming is sure, and we are charged to watch for it. How it would affect our lives, and make hard things easy to bear, if we would only do this, and always be doing this. Don't you know how eagerly you get ready for company that you love, when you receive a telegram saying that they are surely coming? How you clean house and want to have everything in the very best of order! If we were continually looking for the coming of Jesus we would be as careful to keep our lives as

clean as you would be to have your homes clean if you were expecting company. The certainty of His coming would also be a constant source of comfort and inspiration to us, if we believed it to be near.

The Lord does not come to the world at the time of the rapture, but only reveals Himself to the members of His body. At the time of His resurrection He was only seen by those who believed on Him. Pilate and the high priest, and those who crucified Him, did not know that He was risen. So it will be at the time of the rapture. The world will not know that He has been here, and will have no knowledge of Him, until He comes with the members of His body, at the close of the tribulation.

What an awful thing then, to have the glorious privilege of living in this dispensation, with all that it means, and miss getting into the body of Christ by refusing to become a Christian. The preacher owes it to his people to look into these things, that he may show them their great privilege, and warn them of the awful things that may come upon them, if they miss their chance and have to go through the great tribulation. The preacher who has never qualified himself to preach a sermon on the sure and certain coming of his Master, will have to answer for an awful breach of trust when he stands before Him.

Our fleet of battleships made its remarkable trip around the Horn and around the world, and again dropped anchor at home on schedule time, almost to the minute, in spite of storm and the fickleness of wind and wave; and if the calculations of men can be wrought out so precisely, certainly we have the right to expect that God will execute His plans with absolute precision, in whatever task He sets for Himself. Certainly we can think of nothing so improbable as that He would complete His program for creation on schedule time, and yet would so tie His own hands by failure to anticipate and provide for all possible emergencies and contingencies that the train of His purpose for redemption would be so delayed or nearly wrecked that it would almost have to be abandoned. Do not think it for a moment. God's purpose can no more be kept back a minute than the heavenly bodies can be delayed a minute. In redemption God is working by the clock as surely as in creation, and His chariot of salvation is not marked late a single minute.

"COME, LORD JESUS!"

Show Your Light

A friend of mine was walking along the streets one dark night when he saw a man coming along with a lantern. As he came up close to him, he noticed by the bright light that the man had no eyes. He went past him; but the thought struck him, "Surely that man is blind!" He turned around and said, "My friend, are you not blind?" "Yes," was the answer. "Then what have you got the lantern for?" "I carry a lantern," said the blind man, "that people may not stumble over me." Let us take a lesson from that blind man and hold up our light, burning with the clear radiance of Heaven, that men may not stumble over us.—D. L. Moody

the very moment the rapture takes place. There is now not a single prophecy remaining to be fulfilled before the Lord may come, and the members of His body be caught up to meet Him in the air.

It stands to reason that the tribulation must be the most awful time known, because for the only time in all history the Devil will then be loose and have unhindered sway. Everything he can do that will add to human woe will certainly be done. Governments will go to pieces, and there will be no security of life and property. A man may be a millionaire one day and a beggar the next. A very chaos of crime and outrage of every kind will be turned loose. God will let the world and the universe see for a time what it will mean to live under the Devil's rule, and will let those who pass through the tribulation see that the good they so long enjoyed was because of the presence of the good. Some of you people who throw your votes and influence in favor of whiskey and all kinds of hellishness that go with it may live to find out in the bitterness of the tribulation just what is meant by sowing the wind and reaping the whirlwind.

It is supposed that the tribulation will cover a period of seven years. God in His mercy will make it as short as possible. That the real church of God, believers, members of the body of Christ, are to be taken out of the world before the world is saved, is as clearly taught in the Bible as that through the atonement made by Christ man may have salvation from sin.

What will it mean to the world? Every believer will be instantly taken out of the world; homes will be rent in twain, husbands will be robbed of godly wives, children will be taken out of the world and those left behind will wring their hands in grief. No doubt newspapers will print extra editions. Universal consternation will reign. The world will neither see the Lord, neither will they see their loved ones go. Those who have died in the faith will be raised.

Closing Words: Watch! Be Ready!

The statement of Jesus shows that not all the people are to be caught up in the air in clouds, but one here and there:

"There shall be two men in one bed; one shall be taken and the

of the greatest progress and prosperity the world has ever known. The coming of Christ will bring the millennium—the golden age of man in this world—when the arts and sciences, and everything else that man ought to delight in, will flourish as never before, and never until Jesus comes will the knowledge of the glory of God cover the earth as the waters cover the sea. To say that the second coming of Christ is a pernicious thing to preach is the same as saying it would be a calamity for God to rule. It will be the culmination of the redemption of this world, and to say that it would put an end to all progress is as foolish as to say that putting a roof on a house would ruin it



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Washington's Humility

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"Why don't you help them?" asked the quiet man on the horse, addressing the important corporal.

"Me? Why, I'm a corporal, sir!" Dismounting, the stranger carefully took his place with the soldiers.

"Now, all together, boys—heave!" he said. And the big piece of timber slid into place. The stranger mounted his horse and addressed the corporal.

"The next time you have a piece of timber for your men to handle, corporal, send for the commander-in-chief."

The horseman was George Washington.

—Watchman-Examiner

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